Millennial Star

JANUARY 1968

Millennial Star

Volume 130 **No. 1**

January, 1968

CONTENTS

FEATURES **Page**

Church Given Papyri 4
With Trust In God 64
Hezekiah's Tunnel 72

ARTICLES

Why Education, President McKay 12
The Sacrament 44
Study the Bible 47
Lift Up Your Eyes 49
The Good Name 53
The Lord's Witness 55
Follow the Leader 58

SECTIONS

Stake News 15
Mission News 21
Women's 29
Children's 37
Youth 41
Weddings 59

Business Manager:
Dougald McKeown
Managing Editor:
Monitor C. Noyce
News: Muriel Cuthbert
Women's, Youth Features:
Gwen Cannon

The Millenial Star is the Official publication of the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints in Great Britain. Published monthly from 288 London Road, Mitcham, Surrey, England. Printed by the Target Press Ltd., Boulton Road, Reading, Berks. Subscription rates: £1 2s. per year (Foreign $3.50), 2s. per copy. The Star will be pleased to receive articles for consideration, but is not responsible for the materials submitted although it will try to ensure the safe return of these materials wherever possible.

Cover Picture

Winter Scene

Reproduced by permission
Jarrold & Sons Ltd.

RETIREMENT

By

William Cowper

(Born 1731. Died 1800

★ William Cowper was born, 26th November, 1731, at Berkhampstead, Hertfordshire, of which place his father was the rector. He was educated at a private school, and afterwards at Westminster. At the age of eighteen he was articled to an attorney, but disliked the profession. Some influential friends obtained for him the offices of Reading Clerk and Clerk of the Committees of the House of Lords. But as these appointments required him to appear in the House, he resigned them. He was then appointed Clerk of the Journals, but as it was necessary that he should appear at the bar of the House, it had such an effect on his nerves that he was obliged to resign the office, and for some time was under the care of Dr. Cotton at St. Albans. He was afterwards an inmate in the family of a clergymen of the name of Unwin, at Huntingdon, and after that gentleman's death Cowper boarded with his widow. They removed to Olney, in Buckinghamshire, where he wrote sixty-eight of the "Olney Hymns." The Olney Collection, written by Rev. John Newton and Cowper, was published in 1779, and it was after that period that Cowper wrote the series of poems which have made his name immortal. In 1795 a royal pension of £300 per annum was granted him. He died at Dereham, in Norfolk, April 1800.

Far from the world, O lord! I flee,
From strife and tumult far;
From scenes where Satan wages still
His most successful war.

The calm retreat, the silent shade,
With prayer and praise agree;
And seem, by Thy sweet bounty, made
For those who follow Thee.

There if Thy Spirit touch the soul,
And grace her mean abode,
Oh, with what peace, and joy, and love,
She communes with her God!

There, like the nightingale,she pours
Her solitary lays,
Nor asks a witness of her song,
Nor thirsts for human praise.

Author and Guardian of my life,
Sweet Source of light divine,
And (all harmonious names in one)
My Saviour, Thou art mine!

What thanks I owe Thee, and what love!
A boundless, endless store,
Shall echo through the realms above
When time shall be no more.

EDITORIAL ROUND UP

TWO NEW STAKES

★ The new Texas North Stake in Lubbock, Texas and the Hamilton South Stake in New Zealand have been organized. The new Texas North Stake, is presided over by Pres. Franklin Spencer Gonzalez, formerly district president in the Texas Mission.

Growth of the Church in New Zealand is evidenced by the new Hamilton South Stake created through a division of the Hamilton Stake. President of the new stake is Pres. Harry S. Peckham, formerly president of Hamilton Stake. New president of the Hamilton Stake is Pres. Douglas James Martin, formerly first counselor in the Hamilton Stake presidency.

★ "The oldest continuous programme in American radio" the Tabernacle Choir's programme presented its 2,000th nationwide broadcast over the CBS Radio Network on Sunday, Dec. 9.

This represents 39 years and six months of programmes which now reach upwards of 10 million listeners weekly.

Its production director, announcer and author of "The Spoken Word" is Elder Richard L. Evans, of the Council of the Twelve. Director of the Choir is Richard P. Condie.

The first broadcast was conducted by Anthon C. Lund with Tracy Y. Cannon and Edward P. Kimball as the Tabernacle organists.

Present Tabernacle organists are Dr. Alexander Schreiner, Roy M. Darley and Robert Cundick.

Coming In March Issue

★ Beginning with the March issue of the Millennial Star the Magazine will take on a new programme to be of more value and help to its thousands of readers in the British Isles.

A section of the magazine will be devoted each month, to a particular theme, with many helpful ideas, suggestions, and topic materials treating this assigned theme.

For instance, the March issue will be themed to Home Evening. Some of your brothers and sisters in the Church right here in the British Isles will be telling you what has made their Home Evening a success. Young men and young women will tell their thoughts on this important programme of the Church. There will be games and recipes for refreshments suggested for your futuré home evening enjoyment.

The theme selected for April is that of Easter and what the resurrection means to us.

The May issue will be themed to Spring, the month of opportunity—the newness of life ahead.

Be sure to read these and all of the other spiritual and informative articles being prepared to help YOU grow in the Church and to obtain an increased testimony of the Divinity of the Lord Jesus Christ.

Church Given Papyri by New York Museum

MANUSCRIPTS ONCE OWNED BY PROPHET JOSEPH SMITH

★ Of significant interest to all Latter-day Saints is the story contained in the Dec. 2 issue of the Church News, Salt Lake City, relative to the Church recently receiving a collection of some papyrus manuscripts, once owned by the Prophet Joseph Smith. This is part of the collection believed burned in the great Chicago fire of 1871.

In recent ceremonies in the Egyptain section of the New York Metropolitan Museum of Art, the collection was presented to President N. Eldon Tanner of the First Presidency.

The collection includes a papyrus manuscript identified as the original document from which the Prophet Joseph Smith drew what is known as Facsimile No. 1 in the Book of Abraham in the Pearl of Great Price.

The collection (11 pieces) also includes a letter signed by Emma Smith Bidamon, widow of the Prophet, and Joseph Smith, son of the Prophet and Emma, all turned over to the Church by Dr. Thomas P. F. Hoving, museum director.

The collection will be sent to Brigham Young University, Provo, Utah, for careful study and evaluation, said President Tanner. He noted the facsimile original and the letter, which was dated May 26, 1856, was of high interest to Church authorities.

The letter noted the sale of four Egyptian mummies and papyrus to a

President N. Eldon Tanner, left, inspects papyri gift with Dr. Henry G. Fischer, Dr. Thomas P. F. Hoving, Dr. Joseph Noble and Dr. Aziz S. Atiya.

Mr. A. Combs had been consummated between the Prophet's widow and son.

The gift also includes conventional heiroglyphic and hieratic Egyptian funerary texts, including the Book of the Dead, which were commonly buried with Egyptian mummies.

The items were found with a group of mummies which the Prophet Joseph Smith purchased from Michael H. Chandler in 1835 in Kirtland, Ohio.

The articles turned over to the Church were found by Dr. Aziz S. Atiya of the University of Utah, a little over a year ago, in a dimly lit room in the Egyptian section of the Museum. Dr. Atiya is not a member of the Church. He found the collection while browsing through the papyri collection seeking for optic or Islamic Papyri.

Dr. Atiya said, "I was electrified. I recognised immediately the original of Facsimile No. 1 in the Pearl of Great Price. Although it had been damaged some, I knew it was the one Joseph Smith had. I looked through the box and then found a letter signed by Emma Smith Bidamon attesting to the authenticity of the collection. This is one of the great finds of my career."

Dr. Atiya, a friend of the Church, notified the Church and also Dr. Henry

G. Fischer, curator of the Egyptian Section.

Dr. Hoving said, "it is very unusual that any item in a museum is given away or sold, but we know of the great interest this material has for your Church, and I am very happy that it can go home where it belongs."

Expressing deep appreciation of the Church for the gift, President Tanner told Dr. Hoving "it is impossible to say what it means to receive this papyri which was once in the hands of the Prophet Joseph Smith."

Dr. Atiya, recently retired as director of the U. of U. Middle East Centre, is known throughout the world as a historian, writer and teacher.

The collection the Church received was first brought to the attention of the Museum in 1918 when Mrs. Alice C. Heusser of Brooklyn, N. Y. took them to the museum for evaluation.

The museum bought the collection from Edward Heusser, husband of Alice Heusser in 1947.

Through the years since the great Chicago fire it had been assumed the four mummies and "two or more" rolls of papyrus the Prophet purchased had been destroyed in that fire.

The history of the Pearl of Great Price papyri begins in the land of Egypt near Trebes, once a great city.

A French traveller, Antonio Lebolo, obtained a license to probe the catacombs of the dead in Thebes from Mehemet Ali, then viceroy of Egypt in 1828.

Eleven mummies were found deep in the catacombs June 7, 1831. Lebolo, returning to France, via Alexandria, stopped at Trieste where he was taken ill and died 11 days later, in 1832.

He had willed his find to his nephew Michael H. Chandler, then of Philadelphia. The mummies were sent to Dublin, however, for Lebolo believed his nephew was living in Ireland. The mummies were sent on to New York City where they were held at the U.S. Customhouse in the spring of 1833.

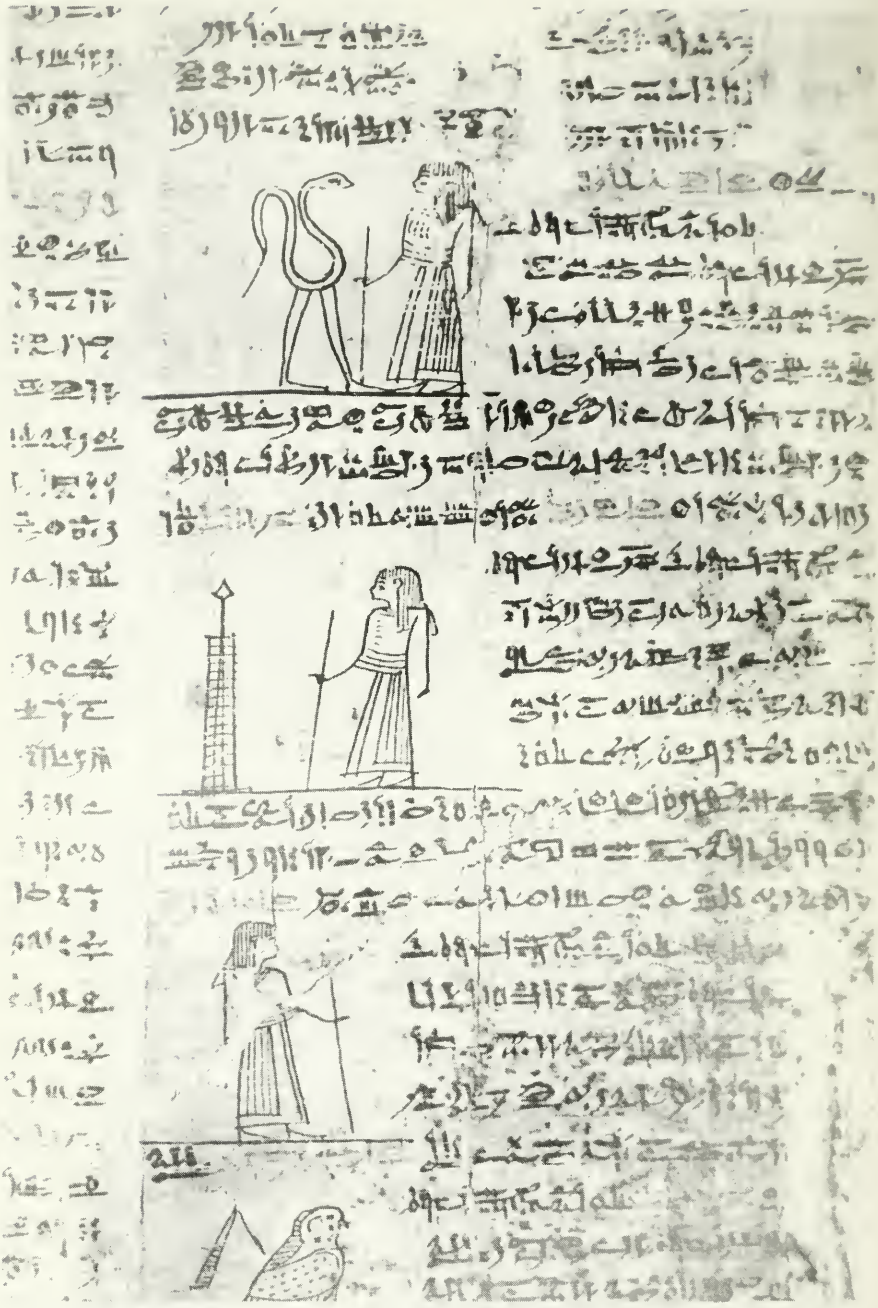
Mr. Chandler took possession and upon opening the cases found two rolls of papyrus and two or three other small pieces of papyrus, with as Elder Oliver Cowdery says, "astronomical calculation, epitaphs, etc. were found with the other mummies."

Disappointed at not finding jewels or treasures, Mr. Chandler was referred to Joseph Smith. Parley P. Pratt's account of how the Prophet obtained the mummies and papyrus was published in 1842.

Continued on page 10

Explanation of the facsimile from the Book of Abraham

Fig. 1. The Angle of the Lord. 2. Abraham fastened upon an altar. 3. The idolatrous priest of Elkenah attempting to offer up Abraham as a sacrifice. 4. The altar for sacrifice by the idolatrous priests, standing before the gods of Elkenah, Libnah, Machmackrah, Korash and Pharaoh. 5. The idolatrous god of Elkenah. 6. The idolatrous god of Libnah. 7. The idolatrous god of Mahackrah. 8. The idolatrous god of Korash. 9 The idolatrous god of Pharaoh. 10. Abraham in Egypt. 11. Designed to represent the pillars of heaven, as understood by the Egyptians. 12. Raukeeyang, signifying expanse, or the firmament over our heads; but in this case, in relation to this subject, the Egyptians meant it to signify Shaumau, to be high, or the heavens, answering to the Hebrew word, Shaumahyeem. Joseph Smith copied this "Facsimile No. 1" from this original papyrus.



One piece of the papyri presented to the Church by the New York Museum of Art. Extensive study will be carried on at BYU to determine what it pertains to.

Papyrus fragment shows ancient Egyptians illustrated parchments they buried with their dead.

PAPYRI

Continued from page 6

Elder Pratt said the record was translated by the Urim and Thummin and proved to be a record written partly by the father of the faithful Abraham, and finished by Joseph when in Egypt. It is supposed they were preserved in the family of the Pharaohs and later hid up with the embalmed body of the female upon whom they were found.

Joseph Smith wrote that he spent "the remainder of this month continually engaged in translating an alphabet to the Book of Abraham and arranging a grammar of the Egyptian language as practiced by the ancients."

In a recent "Doctrinal Commentary on The Pearl of Great Price" by Hyrum L. Andrus, he notes that a study of a handwritten document by Joseph Smith designated as the "Egyptian Alphabet and Grammar," shows each page divided by three columns. The first column has a copy of a character, the English pronounciation in the second column and the third contains the translation.

Dr. Andrus in his commentary says: "A study of the document suggests that it was formated by an ancient writer, probably Abraham, to assist a translator in deciphering the language in which the record was written. If this conclusion is correct, Joseph Smith literally translated an alphabet to the Book of Abraham."

At this time it is unknown if any other parts of the Chandler collection exist or if they were burned in the Chicago fire of 1871.

Life Sculpture

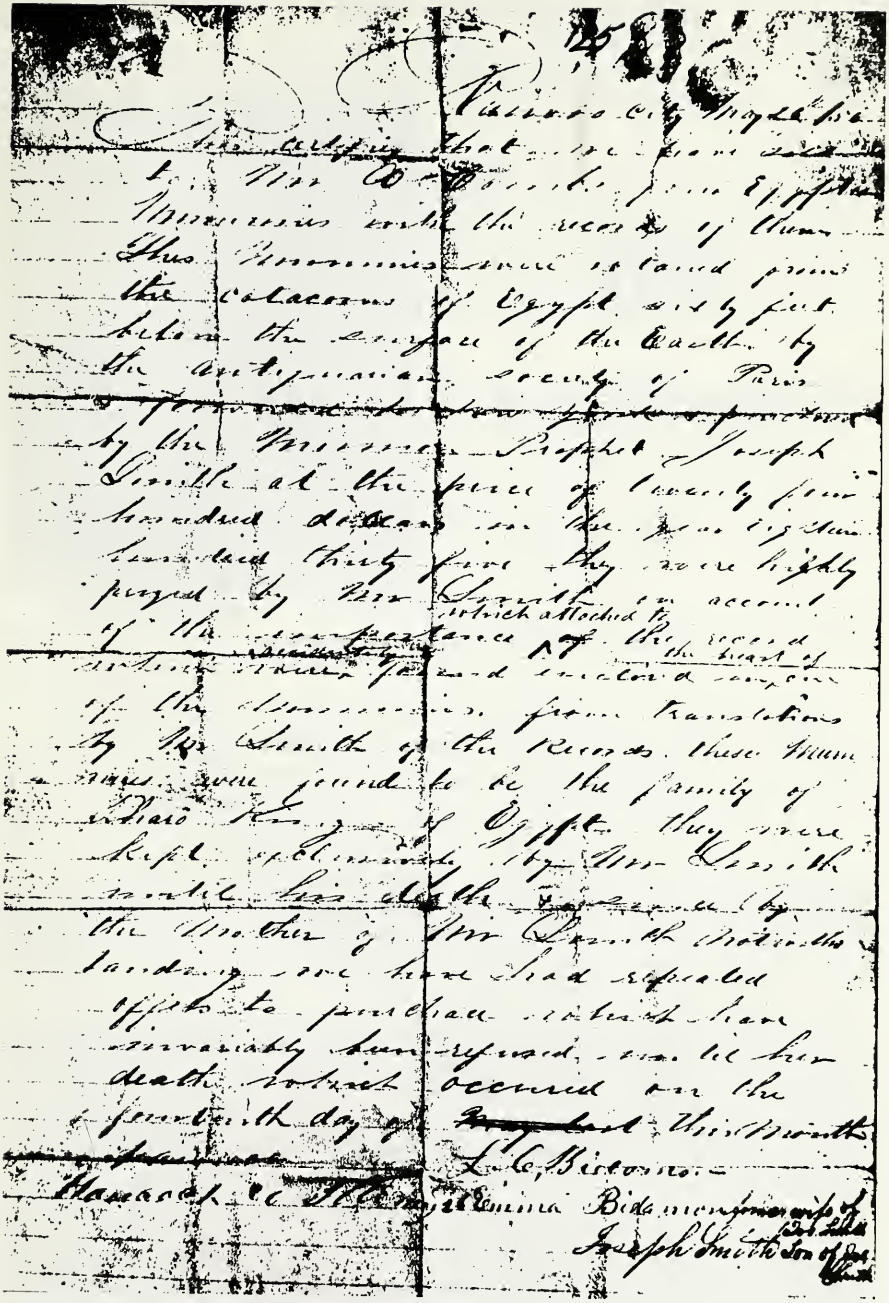
George Washington Doane
Born May 27, 1799; died April 27, 1859

Chisel in hand stood a sculptor boy
With him marble block before him,
And his eyes lit up with a smile of joy,
As an angel-dream passed o'er him.

He carved the dream on that shapeless stone,
With many a sharp incision;
With heaven's own light the sculpture shone,–
He'd caught that angel- vision.

Children of life are we, as we stand
With our lives uncarved before us,
Waiting the hour when, at God's command,
Our life-dream shall pass o'er us.

If we carve it then on the yielding stone,
With many a sharp incision,
Its heavenly beauty shall be our own,—
Our lives, that angel-vision.



Letter, dated May 26, 1856, signed by Emma Smith Bidamon, widow of Prophet and Joseph Smith, son of the Prophet and Emma, also given to the Church.

Why Education?

By President David O. McKay

★ One of the fundamental teachings of the Church is that salvation depends upon knowledge, for "it is impossible for a man to be saved in ignorance." (D & C 131:6.) ". . . if a person gains more knowledge and intelligence in this life through his diligence and obedience than another, he will have so much the advantage in the world to come." (D & C 130:19.)

The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints stands for education. The very purpose of its organization is to promulgate truth among men. Members of the Church are admonished to acquire learning by study, and also by faith and prayer, and to seek after everything that is virtuous, lovely, of good report, or praiseworthy. In this seeking after truth, they are not confined to narrow limits of dogma or creed, but are free to launch into the realm of the infinite.

Gaining knowledge is one thing, and applying it is another. Widsom is the right application of knowledge to the development of a noble and Godlike character. A man may possess a profound knowledge of history and mathematics, he may be an authority in physiology, biology, or astronomy. He may know all about whatever has been discovered pertaining to general and natural science, but

if he does not, with this knowledge, have that nobility of soul which prompts him to deal justly with his fellowmen and to practice virtue and honesty, he is not a truly educated man.

The aims of education are to develop a structure of thought and to improve human relations. The objective of education is to develop resources in the student that will contribute to his well-being as long as life endures, even eternal life. Its objects are also to develop power of self-mastery, that a student may never be a slave to indulgence or other weaknesses, and to develop virile manhood and beautiful womanhood Truly, a nation's greatest asset is its untarnished manhood and pure womanhood.

What, then is true education? It is awakening a love for truth, giving a just sense of duty, opening the eyes of the soul to the great purpose and end of life. It is not so much giving words as thoughts; not mere maxims so much as living principles. It is not teaching the individual to love the good for one's own sake; it is teaching him to love the good for the sake of the good itself, to be virtuous in action because he is so in heart, and to love and serve God supremely, not from fear but from delight in his perfect character.

Character is the aim of true education; and science, history, and literature are but means used to accomplish this desired end. Character is not the result of chance, but of continuous right thinking and right acting.

True education seeks to make men and women not only good mathematicians, proficient linguists, profound scientists, or brilliant literary lights, but also honest men with virtue, temperance, and brotherly love. It seeks to make men and women who prize truth, justice, wisdom, benevolence, and self-control as the choicest acquisitions of a successful life.

I look upon all recipients of true education as individuals and groups radiating an influence that makes less dense and ineffective the darkness of ignorance, suspicion, hatred, bigotry, avarice, and greed, which continue to envelop in darkness the lives of men.

Education is an investment, not an expense. It can become an investment not only for time but also for eternity. "Whatever principle of intelligence we attain unto in this life, it will rise with us in the resurrection." (D & C 130:18.)

The lives of men become signposts to us, pointing the way along roads that lead either to lives of usefulness and happiness or lives of selfishness and misery. It is important, then, that we seek, both in life and in books, the companionship of the best and noblest men and women.

My young friends, students of the Church: Choose the paramount purpose of true education and let it be yours as you seek your education in the school, the college, or the university of your choice!

The Deseret Club in the University of Oxford

sponsors on

March 29, 30 and 31

at Leicester Stake Centre, the first British

National LDS Student Convention

for all LDS involved in full time Further Education, e.g. university, C.A.T., college of education, etc

for details, wait for the story in the February 'Star', or—and this is a good idea—write to us for details of our programme price and point (and that's important: once you see it our way, you're bound to want to come); write, that is, to:

Graham Stott/Deseret Convention/Jesus College/Oxford

LEICESTER STAKE

EASTWOOD RELIEF SOCIETY BAZAAR SUCCESSFUL

★ Eastwood Ward Relief Society held a very successful bazaar on Oct. 21st under the direction of Lilian Barnes. It was opened by Florence H. Peach, who was presented with a bouquet by Susan Derbyshire. The sisters had worked hard to produce a display of sewn and knitted articles and a stall of home-made goods. The priesthood members also contributed by making table lamps, a table and stool, doll's cradle, letter racks and book racks.

Almost £35 was made for the Relief Society funds.

★ Cats, witches, ghosts were all in evidence when the M.I.A. members assembled at Nottingham on Oct. 31st to celebrate Halloween. Apart from dancing and refreshments the main attraction was the Horror Corridor, where small groups of four or less were taken on a conducted tour of grousome classrooms, where they were exposed to headless women, ghosts, bodies etc., the ensuing screams were a sure sign of its success.

Another big event was organised by the M.I.A. for Nov. 4th, when a ward barbecue was planned instead of the traditional bonfire. Each family was invited to bring their own fireworks, but heavy rain spoiled the evening. Even so it was thoroughly enjoyed, the baked potatoes, sausages, pancakes, bonfire toffee and orange squash being very welcome.

The following Tuesday the Relief Society had a stall on the Nottingham market. Various soft toys and other hand made articles were sold, and at the end of quite a brisk day of business approximately £13 was raised.

★ At the Stake Primary Ball on Nov. 11th over a hundred saints and friends danced to the music of the New Woodsetton Group at Leicester. The compere for the evening was John Bond, and the programme included folk, pop, and modern dancing. The Cultural hall was very attractively decorated with large paper flowers made by the Stake Primary presidency.

★ Vyvienne Attenburrow of Western Park Branch celebrated her 21st birthday in the stake house on Nov. 10th. Geoffrey Harris was the M.C. and made the evening go with a swing. Amongst the 75 guests were some family members who had not met for a long time, and Vyvienne's 78-year-old grandmother who gaily joined in the games.

★ The theme of the stake roadshow this year was "In an English Country Garden" and over five hundred saints in a very crowded stake house saw ten portrayals with colourful flowers and gay songs.

The humorous Bill and Ben, the Flower Pot Men were in evidence both in Derby's T.V. programme where the daisy was crying until another daisy in trousers was found for her, and also in Walsall's garden full of dainty dancing flowers with the entertaining but unwilling gardener. Fairies appeared in some gardens, Nuneaton's were definitely large ones—the brethren—who were holding their starred wands, and South Birmingham had an equally large Fairy Gumboots, (another brother) who taught a lazing gardener his work. Hucknall's enchanted garden belonging to Mary Quite Contrary had a visit from the Wizard of Oz to complete the magic.

Other ideas came from Nottingham, with a Duke opening his garden to trippers, and from Woodsetton with their two Oscar Wilde type ladies.

When the winners were announced, Leicester and Mansfield tied for first place. Mansfield had given "Gardeners Anonymous" — gnome statues, which slickly transformed an empty garden into one full of flowers of all seasons. In Leicester's show it was the seven dwarfs who changed the garden, each bringing a different flower with an appropriate song. Coventry gained second place, and their garden had trouble with peas over-running the flowers. Third was Handsworth with yet another different idea, here inspiring marching and vigorous songs showed soldiers through the ages, dreaming of their English garden and English girls at home.

Stake Drama Director, Ernest Hooker, said in his closing remarks that he was overwhelmed and practically speechless at the success of this roadshow, and the audience were unanimous with agreeing with him. Four coaches and numerous cars filled the car park, testifying to the numbers who had travelled to take part and to support their entrants. The enthusiasm and excitement at the end showed how worth while the evening had been.

★ Because of the tremendous growth of the Church in Leicester, a new branch has been formed and is known as the Western Park Branch. It will be dependent on the Leicester Ward. Albert E. Porter is the branch president.

★ At the stake conference on Nov. 11th, Stanley H. Woods was released as the president of Walsall branch, a position he has held since the branch was first formed six years ago, and sustained as a member of the stake High Council. Kenneth Degville was then sustained as the new branch president.

Bill and Ben, the Beatles and others taking part in Derby's roadshow presentation in Leicester Stake.

There were Fairies at the bottom of Nuneaton's garden in Leicester Stake roadshows.

SUNDERLAND STAKE

★ Consett Branch held a Welcome Home party for May Davidson the Branch President's wife on her return from the hospital on Nov. 4th. Sister Davidson underwent an operation following the birth of her baby two months ago. The party took the form of a home evening with a bonfire and fireworks afterwards.

On Nov. 11th the branch held an open house where each auxiliary had a display showing how and why they were run. Music by the Tabernacle choir was played continuously from 9 a.m. till 7 p.m. The branch presidency were very pleased with the results.

★ Because of hard work and enterprise on behalf of the members, Newton Aycliffe Chapel is now paid for and ready to be dedicated. Their latest effort was a Jumble Sale which brought in £9 and they will be continuing with various projects as they have now started an organ fund.

★ About seven years ago, two sisters joined the Church at Middlesborough, they were Sadie and Eva Cupryna. Both have grown in the Church, Sadie being Relief Society president and Eva, teacher and counsellor in the Sunday School. Happy in the Gospel, their only wish was that Eva's twin sister Jean would also accept the Church. On the last Fast and Testimony Sunday, both were able to stand up and express their gratitude that their wish had been granted and their sister Jean Harburn with her husband and two children had been baptized. This item is reported to encourage those who desire their loved ones to accept the Church. The faith and prayers of dedicated people are always heeded by our Father in Heaven.

★ Middlesborough and Billingham Wards held a joint Halloween Party on Oct. 28th. Games and dancing were organised by Lynn Hammond while his wife Pat was busy in the kitchen supervising the roasting of potatoes and preparations of other tasty morsels. Kathryn Henwood and Lesley Marshall decorated the hall with very realistic spider webs and the occasional turnip lantern flickering gave a very eerie atmosphere. Albert Smith terrified everyone with ghost stories (credit o Edgar Allen Poe) while the potatoes were finishing off. The Building fund was richer by some eight pounds as a result of the evening.

★ Matthew Finnigan as Merlin, the magician, and Jenny Jones as a Spanish Lady, were the winnners of the fancy dress parade at Gateshead Halloween party. Brother Sims who judged the fancy dress was the winner of the ghost story contest.

★ Peterlee Branch M.I.A. also organised a Halloween Party, and weirdy costumes were made by Mary Graham and her daughter Trudy. A hearty meal of sausages and beans rounded off the evening.

Yet another party was held in the Hartlepool Ward on Friday Oct. 27th. The evening was a mixture of dances and games, but the main attraction was "Spooks Alley". This alley was very dark and creepy with cobwebs, bodies and skeletons, and members were compelled to pass through it. Judith Noble and Rosalind Ward were responsible. The Cultural hall was decorated with spiders, black cats and a witch with her caldron and broomstick .

Bishop Laurie of the Hartlepool Ward now has two counsellors. Ronald Barret is first counsellor and Harry Talbot second counsellor.

MANCHESTER STAKE

★ Thirty one members of the Relief Society from various parts of the stake, were privileged to attend the Relief Society General Conference during their visit to Salt Lake with the Charter Flight last September. Some were in attendance at the Tabernacle, while others visited the various departments held in the Assembly Hall, Relief Society Building and certain ward chapels. It

was a wonderful experience for these sisters to gain instruction and mingle with the saints from all over the world. Most of them expressed the wonder and delight they felt during the visit and how impressed they were to see many of the places they had hitherto only glimpsed from afar, in fact from the covers of the Relief Society Magazine. Altogether it proved to be an uplifting and testimony building experience.

Eleven sisters who did not go on the flight had the opportunity to spend several days at the London Temple on a special "Ladies visit". This was the largest party from the stake to attend such a visit and they attended several sessions each day. They were also able to visit Crawley Branch Relief Society, on the evening of their opening social Everyone enjoyed this most uplifting visit, and they hope to repeat the experience whenever the opportunity presents itself.

★ Several changes have taken place in the stake recently, Manchester Ward's Bishop, Brian Neville King has gone over the border to Scotland and his place has been taken by Bishop Edwin Charnock Slater, with Ernest Keith Viner as 1st counsellor and Derek Coulthard as 2nd Counsellor. Bishop Slater is in insurance, Bro. Viner is a university graduate, and Bro. Coulthard a metalurgist and a returned Building missionary.

Raymond T. Lloyd is bishop of the new Hyde Ward, with Ronald Eades as 1st counsellor and Herbert K. Featherstone 2nd counsellor.

Anthony James Thorpe has been appointed branch president at Macclesfield replacing Lawrence Mercer Gregson who has been called to serve as a high councilman.

★ The Manchester Mormon Choir had hardly arrived back at Manchester Airport before it was giving further concerts at Liverpool and at the town hall at Hyde, Cheshire. A concert is being arrranged to take place at the Manchester Free Trade Hall the proceeds will be donated to OxFam. Now that the Salt Lake visit is over it is good to see that there is no decrease in the numbers attending each rehearsal.

LONDON STAKE HIGH PRIESTS

★ Former Pres. Joseph William Darling of the London Stake and his wife, Sister "Trixie" Darling, were honoured at the stake High Priest Quorum annual banquet Oct. 23th, in South London Ward Cultural Hall.

Following a delicious dinner Pres. and Sister Darling were presented a silver bowl by Pres. Joseph Hamstead Jr.

Pres. Darling was released as stake president in the September quarterly conference and then sustained as a patriarch to the stake.

He responded to the gift presentation expresing a warm love and appreciation for all whom he had worked with and in fact all members of the stake. "You are the best people in all the world" he said. "Trixie and I hold a deep regard for you." Sister Darling also responded.

Pres. Dougald C. McKeown, second counselor in the stake presidency, was master of ceremonies for the evening. The programme included a skit from each of the wards.

The Catford Ward prepared and served the meal.

LONDON STAKE

★ Three Young Men of the London Stake recently received highly prized awards. The Duty to God Award was presented to Adrien Hobbs of St. Albans ward at Stake Conference on September 17th and to William James Jolliffe, also of St. Albans, at Stake Conference on November 5th. The third young man to achieve was Geoffrey H. J. Willmott, who was presented with the Master M-Man award. This award is the highest which can be earned in the YMMIA and Geoffrey has earned it in the minimum period of three years. All three young men are to be congratulated on the achievement and service which these awards represent.

A LATTER-DAY SAINT IS . . .

★ A Latter-day Saint is a wife who all afternoon baking lasagne and whipping up a cake and then takes her family to the Church bazaar, where her good husband pays a dime-a-dip for the lasagne and buys back the cake.

A Latter-Day Saint is a person with six sacks of wheat in his garage and a super-market across the street

A Latter-day Saint bishop is a man who holds down a full-time job to support his family, pay tithing, fast offerings, budget, building fund and missionary fund and then smiles when a stranger asks him how much he averages per year from his congregation.

A Latter-day Saint is a mother who never gets her ironing done because Relief Society is on Tuesday.

A Latter-day Saint is a child who prays but does not expect miracles; he takes them for granted.

A Latter-day Saint is a man who orders milk and smiles when the waitress confesses that SHE has an ulcer, too.

A Latter-day Saint is a Doctor of Philosophy who listens quietly while his fourteen year-old companion gives a ward teaching lesson to a family.

A Latter-day Saint is an MIA superintendent who calls a 6.45 meeting to prepare for a 7 p.m. meeting which prepares for the 7.15 meeting in which plans are laid for the regular 7.30 MIA meeting.

A Latter-day Saint is a young teen who has a math test on Wednesday and who brings his sociology book to Mutual on Tuesday night.

A Latter-day Saint is an elderly lady who neither sees nor hears well but who sits quietly in Church basking in the spirit as friendly arms go around her and loved ones take her by the hand.

A Latter-day Saint is a person going to or coming from or sitting in a meeting.

(From The Challenge, publication of the Irish Mission)

NORTH BRITISH MISSION

Combined Social Held at West Hull

★ West Hull Relief Society sisters and friends combined their opening social with a birthday celebration for their oldest member Minnie Jones, who was ninety years old. She was presented with a bouquet of roses, and a cake that had been specially baked in her honour. The evening's entertainment began with tongue twisters, and was followed by a fashion parade with the sisters modelling garments they had made themselves; the winner received a box of chocolates.

★ Three girls gave a very convincing portrayal of the three witches on the heath from "Macbeth" at the East Hull M.I.A. Halloween Party on Oct. 31st. It was presented by an unusual ghost story read by David Mount, which provided the right atmosphere for the rest of the evening. A ghost play was also performed at the "Mormon Fair" which took place the following evening and was attended by nearly eighty people.

★ Hull District M-men/Gleaners held a Cinderella Dinner and Dance on Oct. 7th under the direction of Y.W. Pres. Ann Swaney and Y.M. Supt. Robert Thistleton. The dance took place at York with over one hundred guests, who enjoyed a splendid meal of tomato soup, roast beef and vegetables, ice-cream and fruit, all prepared and served by the York Relief Society. Afterwards the Harold Midgeley Trio from Stamford Bridge provided music for a very lively and varied dance programme.

★ On Oct. 15th James Stone was sustained as the president of the East Hull Branch, with John Kennington and Graham Barber as counsellors.

★ Accrington Branch held a fireside at the home of Brother and Sister Johns on Nov. 12th when about sixteen young people of all ages managed to make themselves comfortable and prepared themselves to take part in a vigourous and illuminating debate. A team of teenagers battled with a team composed of more "Stadely" brothers and sisters while Branch President Ambrose Worthington acted as chairman and handled the highly exuberant proceedings with skill and understanding. Various matters were discussed during the course of the evening, including such controversial items as "Mini Skirts", and respect for elders, (not the missionaries in this instance).

The evening's enjoyment was rounded of with light refreshments and group singing.

★ The Liverpool District Relief Society held their Annual Dinner on Oct. 21st at the Liverpool Chapel, when one hundred and thirty brethren and sisters attended. Entertainment was provided by the Liverpool Male Voice Choir, and the programme was emceed by Brother H. Baldwin. During the evening awards were presented to the Crosby Branch for Visiting Teachers, Wirral Branch for Magazine Subscriptions and the Northwhich Branch for Monthly Competitions.

★ On Nov. 18th the Visiting Teaching Convention was held in the Liverpool Chapel organised by the District Relief Society Presidency. Sister Shorracks was the guest speaker with Sister

Stevens, the District Visiting Teacher Leader. The Liverpool Branch gave a very excellent demonstration of how to conduct a Visiting Teaching Meeting, and the play "Why" by Esther Albon, was greatly enjoyed. In the cast Sisters Fraser, West, Irwin, Taylor, and Wilson, with Brother Irwin as Saint Peter, really made the audience see the benefits of going to Relief Society. Sister Alma Perry conducted the Convention and produced the play.

CENTRAL BRITISH MISSION

★ Twenty-year-old Sue Bailey from Palo Alto, California has been a student at Stanford University British Extension Campus at Harlaxton Manor in Grantham, Lincolnshire for the past six months. There are eighty American students there and they entered Sue in the local Charity drive Queen Contest. Selected as the "Grantham Rag Queen" she went in to represent the area at Nottingham University in their student Charity appeal at which over £7,000 was collected.

She competed against thirty other girls and won, and now reigns as the Nottingham University Carnival Queen for 1967. She has given speeches, met Lord Mayors, led raids to raise funds, and reigned at many dances. Despite this activity Sue is currently reading history and hopes to teach in this field. She returned home for Christmas where she is an active member of Palo Alto First Ward, her two brothers Dave and Mark, both attend B.Y.U. David has served a mission in South Germany. While studying at Harlaxton Manor, Sue has been attending the Grantham Branch of the Midlands East District.

★ Brother Bosbury of the Kidderminster Branch welcomed members

Sue Bailey

from Redditch, Stourbridge and Worcester to their show on Nov. 11th. The Mission-aires opened the programme, and they were followed by sketches from various branches, a musical item from Sister Byrne of Worcester and jokes from Bernard Haw. Patrick Layton performed on the harmonica and the accordion, as well as appearing in some of the sketches. Refreshments were served during the interval, and a box of chocolates was presented to one of the sisters from Stourbridge for the best skit.

★ During the morning session of the Midlands South District Conference on Oct. 29th, Hilda Neale received an award of a Genealogy manual for naming the new District Priesthood and Temple magazine, "Kith and Kin". Aaronic Priesthood awards were also presented to the young men of the District.

★ Northampton's M.I.A. Halloween party was held on Nov. 1st. More than fifty members braved the dreadful Witches' weather in order to get there,

and were rewarded by draughts of Witches' brew. Grotesque costumes, fun fortune telling and Penny Church's Folk Band enlivened the activites.

The Branch's "Best Ever" Relief Society Bazaar was held in the Cultural Hall on Nov. 18th. It was packed with "would be" buyers as never before, and great profits were made. The bazaar followed the District Leadership meeting so Branches from Rugby, Bedford and Northampton had stalls.

★ The Stourbridge Branch held another interesting Fireside on Nov. 5th, Forty members and friends, were present including some visitors from the Kidderminster Branch. The guest speakers introduced the Alcoholic Anonymous Association, stressing the importance of one's health and stating that prayer is a stronghold whilst under-going treatment. Also pointing out the fact that there is a high percentage of Alcoholics all over the world, the aim of the "A.A." is to help as much as possible with their unpaid services. The Relief Society provided their usual array of delicious food, and the evening proved to be one of interesting iearning.

INTERESTING PEOPLE

Winifred Jones

Wirral Branch, North British Mission

★ A love of good books has been the guiding light in the life of Winifred Jones. She believes that through reading a person may acquire knowledge and inspiration that enriches ones existence.

"Life holds for us that which we have stored within us" says her daughter, Norma Edwards. "Books leave their traces in our minds and the thoughts and experiences of others are stored away." She reflects the same respect for good literature that has moulded the life of her mother.

Sister Edwards remembers when she was little that Sister Jones took her children every week to the local library. She recalls, "I remember the basket of books my mother would bring home with her. Good books were the only ones allowed into our home. Cheap books were never tolerated."

Sister Jones joined the Church four years ago and has studied with great enthusiasm the standard works of the Church as well as many other Church books. She has been Primary and Relief Society teacher and the Home Making teacher of the Liverpool District Relief Society.

Winnifred Stevens describes her as " . . . a wise and understanding friend to all; a sympathetic and loving mother to her children and a stalwart member of the Church." She said "Although Sister Jones has had a severe illness for many months, her great spirit is undismayed and her faith is burning brighter than ever before."

Sister Edwards concludes with this tribute. "I am so grateful to my mother for the way she taught me to always love my fellowmen, to respect my neighbours, and to always seek after light and truth."

BRITISH SOUTH MISSION

ELDER CULLIMORE DEDICATES READING CHAPEL

★ While Elder James A. Cullimore Assistant to the Twelve and his wife were visiting the British Isles in September he dedicated the Reading Chapel About five hundred people attended the service which was conducted by President K. Wigglesworth of the Reading Branch. Mission Pres. J. W. Child, Sister Child and District Pres. Cornell also attended the service. Talks were given by Moria Peacock, Robert Silcott, Alfred Haslem and Gerald Portch, recalling the happy times, and the hardships of the construction of the Chapel, and the unusual way in which the land was acquired.

Although Reading was amongst the first chapels to be built in Britain, it could not be dedicated until all the finances were in order and the building completely owned by the members. There was some £3,000 still needed on completion to cover the local contributions towards the cost, which the members raised by holding bazaars, jumble sales, socials, dances, pantomimes etc.

★ As the summer activities drew to an end, the Thames Valley District held a Chrysanthemum Ball in September, the first of their winter dances. About two hundred dancers thronged the Cultural hall which was beautifully decorated with Autumn coloured streamers and twenty-four dozen chrysanthemum blooms. A thirty foot poster for the ball, each letter containing a cartoon, was drawn by the girls of M.I.A. and caused much amusement to everyone.

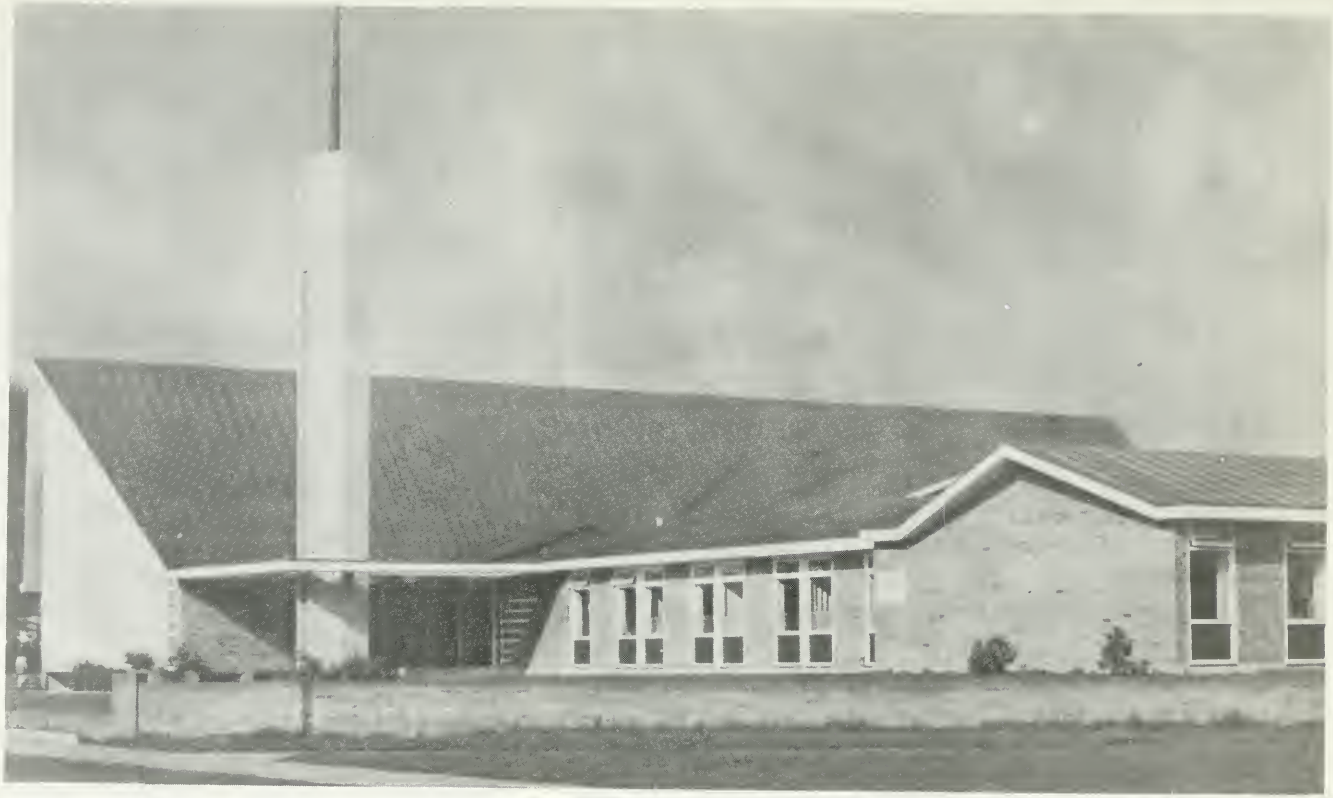
★ Spook Alley's and Halloween Parties were very much in evidence this year, and Mitcham Branch also celebrated the event with a party the theme of which was Witches and Wizards. Henry Hull judged the fancy dress and Glenn Tomkins won the children's section and Wendy Dodd the adult section, both were presented with prizes. William and Mary Brock were responsible for the decorations in the hall and Mary Burland organised the Spook Alley. After games under the direction of Frederick Boness, a Spooky Story brought the evening to a close.

CENTRAL BRITISH MISSION NEWS

★ Captain G. Farrell Young and his wife Doratha are the proud parents of an eight pound boy born on November 14th. Captain Young is president of the Huntingdon Branch of the Central British Mission. Both he and Sister Young are on the Mission Board.

★ We should all have the wish—and work to make it a reality—that our pilgrimage through life will leave some traces of our having passed this way. Like the lamplighter, a man's course in life can be determined by the light he leaves behind him, even after he has turned the corner. Every act is a guidepost that tells the world which way we are going.

—Pres. Hugh B. Brown



Reading Chapel dedicated by Elder James A. Cullimore.

IRISH MISSION

Army Camp Site For Irish Leadership Course

★ Ballykinler Army Camp was the place chosen by the Irish Mission for their recent Leadership week-end. Most of the youth were from the Belfast districts but one young lady travelled all the way from the Isle-of-Man. Although the weather was miserable on the Friday evening it did not hamper the wonderful spirit as the saints claimed their beds and queued at the store for bedding to make them up. When this chore was finished everyone gathered together for a social.

Saturday morning breakfast was served at 8.30 a.m. and at 9 a.m. those wishing to participate in games gathered on the green. Football, touch-rugby, cricket and many others were enough to warm up the coldest person, and considering they were in the Mourne mountains it was cold.

After lunch a Judo exhibition was given by a member of the Army Youth Team with Carole Barlow of Bangor Branch. This was followed by a demonstration of first-aid by Sister S. Griffith, then archery and volley-ball again with the Army Youth team. The evening was rounded off with a record hop.

Sunday morning Mission President Ashcroft had a meeting with the saints. and after breakfast there was a discussion on different aspects of the Gospel in which everyone participated until lunch time. The weekend closed with a Testimony meeting such as many had never experienced before. The love they had for one another and the Gospel, literally made everyone glow.

On the way back to Belfast they all sang their favourite hymns and discussed how much they had enjoyed the week-end and how it could help them to serve more diligently.

Irish youth at leadership weekend.

On the sports field at the Ballykinler camp, Irish Mission.

110 Missionaries Honoured At Belfast Banquet

★ One hundred ten missionaries of the Belfast District were served a Thanksgiving dinner at the Park Avenue Hotel, Belfast, as guests of the Northern Ireland Government.

Mr. Neil C. McMannus, American Consulate General in Belfast, was the principal speaker.

The affair was arranged by Bro. Robert Todd, president of the Ulster Young Unionist/Conservative Association, who welcomed the guests and missionaries on behalf of his government department. Mission Pres. Thorne Ashcroft and Sister Ashcroft, spoke on the mission coat of arms.

Bro. Todd, a former Presbyterian minister, is a recent convert to the

Church. He related the story of his conversion, how he had served as assistant minister in the Presbyterian Church in both North and South Ireland as well as in England and Wales.

"I never knew the Prophet Joseph Smith personally," he declared, "but one thing is sure in my mind and that is that I have learned a lot since going down into the waters of baptism. I have come to respect the Prophet and the instruction which he gives us." Bro. Todd bore a strong testimony and spoke of his "deep respect for all missionaries and their callings."

Pres. and Sister Tanner, a missionary couple also spoke.

The missionary sisters provided impressive Bow Ties for the missionaries. Missionaries from the Mountpottinger District provided music. Elder Daybell proposed a vote of thanks to Bro. Todd and the Northern Ireland Government. Elder Mitchell read a letter telegram from President David O. McKay and Elder Whilde read a letter telegram from President Lyndon B. Johnson of the United States.

Elder Hardy and Elder Bartholomew proposed a toast to President Johnson and to Her Majesty the Queen. Elder Turley was Master of Ceremonies

At Thanksgiving dinner for 110 missionaries of Belfast District, Irish Mission in Belfast. Pres and Sister Thorne Ashcroft, fifth and sixth from left.

Sister Haslem, center, Reading, discusses Relief Society with two Sisters from Tahiti during the auxiliary's annual reception in Salt Lake City, Utah.

Reading Sister Relates Visit to Relief Society Conference

★ My trip to Salt Lake with my husband was the most wonderful holiday of my life. I have so many precious memories to look back on. Just to be in Salt Lake was an experience never to be forgotten, because there is a tremendous spirit all over the valley. The mountains are really beautiful—there seems to be something very special about them.

One of our first visits was up through part of the route the Pioneers took and on to the "This is the Place Monument." To stand where Brigham Young had said those famous words and look out over the valley made me wonder how the Saints must have felt when they had their first glimpse of the Valley. Looking out from this position made me realise what a blessed land it is and the fulfillment of Isaaih's prophecy —"And it shall come to pass in the last days that the mountain of the Lord's House shall be established in the top of the mountains, and shall be exalted above the hills, and all nations shall flow unto it. The wilderness and the solitary places shall be glad for them; and the desert shall rejoice and blossom as a rose."

During Conference Week we had many choice experiences. I was able to visit the Relief Society Homemaking Display. This is open for just one day, and I was fortunate enough to be able to go. There were displays from wards all over the states and I was told preparations for the display had been started 12 months before hand. General Board members on the Homemaking Committee visit wards during the year and choose articles to be displayed. There were Christmas decorations, large flowers which were made out of crepe paper, quilting some really delicate needle work, hand made jewelry and hand painted pottery. The sisters of Relief Society had put many hours of work into the crafts which were displayed. It impressed me to see all the Homemaking Committee members dressed in Jersey suits which they had made themselves, all from the same pattern, but with different variations. Some had embroidery, some pockets, some jackets of different length and all in attractive colours.

The following evening my husband and I were taken to the Relief Society Building to a reception where the General Board members were meeting Relief Society Sisters from all over the world. It was a wonderful feeling to be part of such an organisation. I met two Sisters from Tahiti who, with a group of Brothers and Sisters, did a display of Tahitian singing and dancing. We were given a specially conducted tour around by our friend, who is a secretary to a General Board member. We were taken into the offices of the Presidency each one furnished differently with gifts from Relief Societies all over the world. One such gift was a china coach and horses piece, which was in Sister Spafford's office. All the General Board members were again dressed distinctively in long evening dresses

We were able to visit the Genealogical Vaults before they were closed down for the winter. We had a conducted tour and it didn't take us long to realise that the Lord certainly had been with the Saints when they were building the Vaults. It seems after tunnelling out the main passage they decided to go a little further to make sure it was solid granite, and there they found a natural spring—from where it comes or where it goes they don't know—but there is sufficient for the processing needs and general use of the staff of the Vaults. What is more wonderful, the water is 99.7 per cent pure—so they need add no chlorine. They found also that the air circulates naturally from one side to the other so there is no need for air conditioning as the Vaults are exactly the right temperature for storing film. My testimony was strengthened so much by this visit. I know the Lord had a hand in building those Vaults.

We have such happy memories of seeing all our friends who now live in America, and of being with our missionaries at the reunions. It was wonderful to see those young men and women with their wives and husbands and some with their families.

To sit in the Tabernacle and listen to the leaders of the Church give such words of inspiration, and to hear the Choir was such a spiritual uplift. We were also able to go through the Salt Lake Temple, which is an experience I shall never forget.

I was very sad to leave that beautiful valley and I long for the day when I can go back again and experience that feeling I had when I stood and looked up at the Temple and knew the Church was true.

Sister Dorothy Haslem

Father Christmas entertained the children.

WALSALL BRANCH CHRISTMAS FAIR

★ If money earned is a measure of success, the Walsall Branch Christmas Fair was truly successful. They raised over £100 at their November 4th event and it is estimated that £65 will be clear profit.

Advanced publicity in the local papers and at branch functions was partly responsible for the fine support it received. Programmes were sold to Church members and their friends for a shilling. They listed the stalls that would be open as well as the programme for a concert to be held in the evening. A voucher was included in the programme that could be exchanged for a shillings worth of bazaar goods. Many were sold to people who could not come to the bazaar and it gave them an opportunity to contribute.

Months of hard work went into the preparation of this event. Well-laden stalls of children's clothes, home made food, cards calendars, plants and pets offered a wide variety for purchasers. Father Christmas (Charles Perry) was a great attraction for the children. The room and stalls were gaily decorated by Prim Degville.

The Relief Society was honored to have Dorothy Poole, the wife of the stake president, to open the bazaar.

The Walsall Branch Relief Society Presidency Peggy Edmunds, Betty Degville and Margaret Woods felt well rewarded for a most successful evening.

Walsall Branch Christmas Fair.

A display of gifts and cards.

Fair Mary

Fair Mary, Mother of Our Lord
As Tenderly you gazed upon your new-born Son,
What wondrous thoughts passed through your mind
Remembering He was the promised One?

At first the pride that every Mother feels
As reverently she looks upon a spirit fresh from God,
And then an overwhelming humility and awe
That you had helped fulfill His Holy Word.

Surely only faith and trust
In God, who strengthened you in days now gone,
Could help you face this great responsibility
And fill your trembling heart with song.

Julia T. West, Colchester, Essex

★ January's cold, sharp wind and frosty days make warm, nourishing meals a must for busy families. This casserole fills the bill! It is a good recipe to use on Primary or M.I.A. days when meal preparing time is short. You can make it ahead of time, even a day before, and then put it in the oven to warm for thirty minutes before serving.

Hamberger-Noodle Casserole

1½ lb. minced beef
1 cup chopped onion
12 ounces tinned, whole kernal corn
1 tin condensed cream of chicken soup
1 tin condensed cream of mushroom soup
4 ounces commercial sour cream
¼ cup pimento (optional)
¼ teaspoon salt
¼ teaspoon pepper
3 cups cooled and drained noodles
1 cup soft bread crumbs
3 tbs. melted butter

Lightly brown mince and onions. Add corn, soups, sour cream, pimento and seasonings. Mix well. Stir in noodles and pour into a 2 quart casserole.

Mix bread crumbs with melted butter and sprinkle over the top. Bake in moderate oven (350°) 30 minutes or until hot. Serves eight to ten.

HOUSEHOLD HINT

★ If you have never used wheat germ try it as it makes a delicious topping for casseroles. I often substitute it for bread crumbs as it is much more nourishing and has a delicious flavour. I use it on all cereals, hot and cold. It can be purchased in many grocery stores or all health food stores.

The Mountains of Endeavour

Have you not seen a wondrous mountain range,
Peak upon peak touched lightly by the sun,
Then in a moment, changing mood for mood,
Crouching 'neath mist and storm clouds, one by one?
Have you not wondered at those sides so sheer,
No upward path appears to find a way
Around the many crevices, that seem
To lie in wait for those who lightly stray?

Have you not seen on snowy mountainside,
Beautiful eidelweiss in safety cling,
Showering in great profusion on the slopes
Flowers that welcome nature's sweetest spring?
There too are silver waterfalls, and streams
Of mountain pureness, lifegiving and cool,
Tumbling, racing downwards, where they end
Peacefully, blending in a lowland pool.

On the great mountain slopes are young men climbing,
Upward and even onward to their goal,
Many a climber grows increasing weary,
Turns from the direct path to pause or stroll.
Yet only those who do not fear nor falter,
Neither choose turning paths to lead them on,
These men alone will reach the greatest summit,
Attaining glory may look upon.

Life is a range of mountains just as massive,
Life, with its many crevices that wait
For the false step the climber may be making,
One step to seal an everlasting fate.
We must climb surely onward up each mountain,
Eyes ever fixed on towering snowcapped peak,
Senses alert to counter every danger,
Each stone that quietly moves to trap the weak.

Life's mountain range is glorious to encounter,
Each peak is balanced by a friendly vale,
Life's crevices are all our faults and failures
Sent to confuse the upward Gospel trail.
We must climb every mountain as we find it,
Rising from level ground upon the plain,
Till finally we climb on up forever,
In God's eternal mountain range to reign

3 Young Poets Express Their Thoughts

★ Three young poets of Hayes Branch, British South Mission, have shared their poems with us. These were the result of a poetry contest held in their Junior Sunday School.

THE LORD JESUS

Jesus is my shining light
That guides me through
The day and night.
I am His treasure in His fold.
His hands out to me He does hold.
Jesus is my shining light
That guides me through
The day and night.

Neil Taylor, Age 8

WINTER

Winter is my favourite season because
it brings the snow and freezes
the ponds so thick.
It brings the frost that paints
upon my window and the little
robins that sing their songs
among the winter trees in the
winter wind.
When I go out to clear a path I
hear the robins sing their
song way up on the chimney pot.
When I finish the path it looks
just like a bright, new pin.
Then I go in and go to bed by
the winter's moon.

Trevor Grady, Age 7

THE PROPHET JOSEPH SMITH

When he was a boy he did not know
Which church to join or where to go.
He looked into the scriptures in his youth,
And at last found the truth.
He found that if you prayed sincere
You'd get an answer to your prayer.
And so he went to the grove to pray.

A light descended brighter than day.
It looked like men with flesh and bone,
Not one but two, and they stood alone.
Then Joseph asked which church was true.
And they answered "None, it will come anew."

And from that day the Church so small
Grew and grew and will never fall.
This poem is for people that do not know
Which church to join or where to go.

Fred Ashby, Age 11

ATTENTION CHILDREN

★ We are going to have a children's page in each Millennial Star for children under twelve years old. We would like short stories, poems, riddles, games, crossword puzzles and even recipes that children would enjoy. This page will also include children's own hobbies, pictures, poems and stories. We would be interested in biographies of children who have special interests and talents.

Please sent such material to:

Gwen Cannon
"Bywood" Nightingales Lane,
Chalfont St. Giles, Bucks.

Children Learn To Speak

by Gwen Cannon

★ A great opportunity offered in the Church, even to the very young, is that of public speaking. By the time the youth of the Church are ready to go on missions, they have had long and rich experiences in expressing themselves to others. This opportunity can come to even the youngest member of the Junior Sunday School. A three year old can hold up a picture and describe it in a simple sentance to his fellow students. Another may give a prayer or recite a children's poem. These are the beginnings. As they do these tasks successfully so they grow in confidence upon which further successes are built.

How do you help a young chld have such happy experiences and thus grow in their skills to speak? Their joy in doing depends on the wisdom of parents and teachers.

Give Assignments Early

No child can prepare a talk and give it well on a short notice. I believe that assignments to children should be given at least two weeks in advance and preferably a month. This allows parents and children ample time to select an appropriate subject, prepare visual aid material and become thoroughly familiar with the topic. Giving an assignment well in advance also lends importance to it and a child will sense that what he is doing has meaning and status to the adults involved.

Assign Appropriate Topics

When you assign a talk be certain that the material is appropriate to each particular child. Consider the age level, sex and the interests of the child. Make sure that he has a thorough understanding of what he is asked to speak about. It is always wise to talk to parents about an assignment given to a young child. Solicit their help in deciding whether or not the subject is suitable and can be successfully prepared.

Provide Visual Aids

Visual aids such as flannel board figures, pictures, real objects that relate to a subject add interest to both speaker and his young audience. They serve to "spark" his memory and aid in keeping a story in logical sequence. A teacher should help parents select pictures of flannel board figures from the Junior Sunday School picture file as most parents do not have such material available at home.

Support and Encourage Parents

Make parents feel that you are willing to help when necessary. Give the support and encouragement they need to feel confident that their child will perform well. The child will sense this

and thus lose some of his own anxiety.

Use Their Own Words

Allow children to retell a story or to develop a thought in their own words. Help them remember **ideas** rather than specific words. Encourage children to **tell** a talk rather than read it. Many children read well or badly talks that have been obviously written by a teacher or parent. Often the ideas have no real meaning to a child and it becomes a test of reading skill rather than a challenge of communication. A good adult speaker may have notes to guide him, but it is the exceptional **reader** that can hold the attention of an audience. This is the time to help young people acquire the ability to think on their feet. This skill, when fully developed, can bring success and satisfaction in many areas of endeavor.

Help Children Feel Successful

Always thank a child for his talk. Compliment him on specific parts of the talk that you felt were particularly good. Tell him how clearly he spoke and how well you could hear and understand. Refer to the skill in which he handled the visual aids and how much all the children enjoyed them. In doing this you are re-enforcing those qualities that you feel are important and necessary to public speaking. A child will make even greater effort to do well the next time in the same way.

Help children to enjoy public speaking. They will enjoy it when they are successful in doing it. They will be successful when parents and teachers are willing to give them the time, thought and support that makes success in young children inevitable.

★ ★ ★

Stairway To The Stars

Barry Lucas, Croydon Branch, British Mission

★ What do I need to mount the stairway to the stars? Brains, Energy, Know-how. These things are certainly desirable, but they will carry me only so far. The real magic characteristic is integrity. What is integrity? Basically the word means wholeness. In mathematics, an integar is a number that cannot be divided into fractions. In the same way, a man of integrity cannot be divided against himself. He does not do one thing and believe another. He is not in conflict with his own principles.

It is the absence of inner welfare that gives a man the extra energy and clarity of thought that make achievement inevitable. I am young and have a full life ahead of me, but unless I utilise my time, talents and energy, I will remain at the bottom of the stairway instead of progressing to the top.

Years ago, a writer lost a fortune in bad investments and went bankrupt. His intention was to pay off every penny he owed. Three years later he was still in debt. A newspaper organised a fund to help him. Many famous people contributed. Accepting the money would have ment the end of a tiresome burden, but Mark Twain refused. Seven months later with his new book a success, he paid off every penny.

As I steadily mount the next rung, I must gain a sense of honour, not just honesty, mind you—honour.

I must have a conscience and listen to it. Martin Luther, facing his enemies in the city where his death had been decreed said "It is neither safe nor prudent to do aught against conscience, here I stand, so help me God, I cannot do otherwise."

I must have the courage of my convictions. I must speak out to what I know is wrong. In the operating theatre of a famous hospital, a young nurse had her first full day of responsibility. "You've removed eleven sponges," she said to the surgeon. "We used twelve." "I've removed them all," said the surgeon." We'll close the incision now." "No!" the nurse blazed. "Think of the patient." "I'll take the responsibility," said the surgeon, grimley. "Suture." "No!" the nurse replied. The doctor smiled, lifted his foot and showed the nurse the twelfth sponge. "You'll do," he said. He had been testing her for integrity and she had it.

In a way, this is the heart of it. No one can force you to live up to the best in yourself. No one can compel you to get involved. No one can make you obey your conscience. A person of integrity does these things.

During the war when allied armies were slashing across France, a colonel and his jeep driver took a wrong turn and ran into an oncoming German armoured column. Both men jumped out and took cover, the sergeant in some roadside bushes, the colonel in a culvert under the road. The Germans spotted the sergeant and advanced on him, firing. The colonel could easily have remained undetected. He chose instead, to come out fighting, one pistol against tanks and machine guns. He was killed. The sergeant, taken prisoner, told the story later. Why did the colonel do it? Because his concept of duty, though unenforceable, was stronger than his regard for his own safety. Difficult? Yes. That is why true integrity is rare and admired. But in terms of ultimate reward, it's worth all the effort.

I must have an unshakeable single-mindedness of purpose, a tenacity that refuses to give up. "Never give in!" said Winston Churchill. "Never, Never, Never, Never. In nothing great or small, large or petty, never give in except to convictions of honour and good sense." He never did.

Abraham Lincoln was once warned by his friends not to make a certain speech while campaigning for the United States Senate in 1858. He replied, "If it is decreed that I should go down because of this speech, then let me go down linked to the truth." Lincoln did go down, but two years later he became President.

There are many other benefits that integrity brings a person: friendship, trust, admiration, respect. To finally reach the top of the stairway, I must be totally honest, not to tell that small lie when it is inconvenient to tell the truth; not repeating that juicy bit of gossip when it might be untrue and not to charge that personal phone call to the office. These disciplines may sound small but anything worth having has an integrity of its own that must not be violated.

A fool-proof formula for success? Yes. It is fool-proof because regardless of fame, money, power or any of the conventional yardsticks, if you have integrity, you **are** a success.

New Year Thought

★ Perhaps our most important New Year's thought is that of raising our own sights and motivating our own ambitions. Certainly each new year should be greater than the one preceding it. From this particular New Year just now being born, should come our greatest challenges and our most thrilling opportunities.

God has granted us that inestimable opportunity of always doing our best under every circumstance. What a tremendous privilege it is to be free, to work, to win, to love, to laugh, and to live interestingly and successfully.

— Sterling W. Sill

Temple: Golden Age Programme

★ NOW that the TEMPLE is OPEN on MONDAY, WEDNESDAY, THURSDAY and SATURDAY, and on TUESDAYS as per programme, we are introducing our

GOLDEN AGE PROGRAMME

We invite those of our brethren and sisters who have reached pensionable age to spend an enjoyable holiday at the Temple. We realise that this will involve considerable expense and are therefore prepared to pay an endowment allowance as follows:

Mar/Oct 4/- Nov/Feb 5/- for all Missions and Stakes plus a bonus of 17/6d. for each fourteen endowments performed

Based on accommodation rental at Edenbrook of £2 15 0d. per person per week and taking into account the cost of clothes hire and meals at the Temple, if your stay is of four weeks duration, then all expenses, including travel expenses will be met from the allowance.

The following example may be of help to you when planning for your Golden Age holiday:—

4 weeks accommodation at £2 15 0d. per week	11 0 0
4 weeks clothes rental at 2/6d. per week	10 0
4 weeks food at 4 lunches and 2 teas at 2/6 each	3 0 0
Total	14 10 0

The above is the cost to you (excluding of course your fares and food when not at the Temple), and below is an example of the amount in allowances you can expect to receive:—

4 weeks at 14 sessions per week—		
	56 at say 4/- per session	11 4 0
Bonus	— 4 at 17/6	3 10 0
	Total	14 14 0

We are also prepared to make the following travelling allowance based on a minimum of 14 endowments per week for a maximum of 4 weeks:—

Up to	50	miles from	Temple	7/6	per week
,,	100	,,	,,	14/-	,,
,,	150	,,	,,	20/-	,,
,,	200	,,	,,	25/-	,,
,,	250	,,	,,	30/-	,,
,,	300	,,	,,	35/-	,,
,,	350	,,	,,	40/-	,,
,,	400	,,	,,	45/-	,,
Over	400	,,	,,	50/-	,,

If you need any further help at all please write to the Temple Presidency or ring LINGFIELD 2759.

DO NOT MISS THIS GOLDEN OPPORTUNITY.

The Responsibility of A Teacher

★ I ask you to think of the effect upon society, if every worthy teacher, every one, will succeed in influencing only one other to love, to have that same purity of life, and that same desire to serve his fellowmen as he has!

I once observed a young girl in her teens put forth a special effort to speak to the little boy who was by my side. I could see that she wanted to recognize that boy, and that he was glad when he saw her to return her salutation. After we passed her I said, "Who is she?"

"She is my teacher," he answered.

"What is her name?"

"I don't know what her name is, but oh, she is a dandy!"

He used an incorrect word, but the significance he gave to the word I knew, and the expression on his face I read, and in my heart I thanked the young girl for the influence she had over that boy. Only in her teens, but what that girl will say to him in his class he will accept as Gospel truth; what she does in her life he will emulate; and that young girl (with untold tens of thousands of other teachers) carries the responsibility, in a measure, of molding that boy's character.

THE ELEVENTH HOUR

by Susan Murrey, Wirral Branch North British Mission.

A gentle voice oft said to me,
I'll guide you o'er life's troubled sea
But I preferred to roam at ease
And do the very things I pleased

Then out among the common herd
For pitfalls I was unprepared
I thought sweet liberty I'd found
Instead my wayward heart was bound

Now I'm old and nigh heart broken
God points again his great Love Token
And when I reach the other shore
What greater joy could I wish more

To know that when I re-awaken
By loved ones I am not forsaken
The prodigal has this tale to tell
He heard the whisper 'All is well'

The Sacrament

by

Elder Delbert L. Stapley

of the Council of the Twelve

★ From the days of Adam two sacred ordinances have been instituted by the Lord to keep His people in remembrance of the Christ, the debt He was to pay and the debt He did pay to redeem men from the effects of the fall. The first ordinance is that of sacrifice. The second ordinance is the sacrament, instituted by the Christ to His disciples in connection with the last supper the night before He gave His life on Calvary.

We understand the sacrament is defined as meaning a sacred binding oath of allegiance, to obey one's leader, and to not desert his standard. Our leader is Christ, His standard is the Gospel. I think it would be well for us to always remember this definition because it is meaningful. The sacrament becomes more significant as we partake of the emblems and remember the suffering and death of the Christ to redeem us from the effects of the fall.

The Apostle Paul recounts the institution of the sacrament by the Lord in his epistle to the Corinthian saints and emphasises its purpose, pledge and importance in these words: "Take, eat: this is my body, which is broken for you: this do in remembrance of me." After the same manner He took the cup and when he had supped, stated, "This cup is the new testament in my blood: this do ye, as oft as ye drink it, in remembrance of me. For as often as ye eat this bread, and drink this cup, ye do shew the Lord's death till he come." (1 Cor. 11:24-26.) That indicates to us that the Lord will come again and the sacrament is a continuing ordinance in the Gospel plan until the Lord does come.

The Saviour instituted the ordinance of the sacrament the very night of His betrayal, just before His life was taken upon the cross. Up to this time, He had daily been with His disciples, teaching and instructing them, performing miracles and giving evidence of this Messiahship which kept them in

remembrance of Him. Now that He was about to depart from them, this choice association of the disciples with Him and the subsequent visits of the resurrected Lord made them true and faithful witnesses of His ministry, death, and resurrection. As the Church continued it was necessary to accept Christ's ministry, mission, sonship, and resurrection on the basis of faith; therefore, an ordinance pointing to his great sacrifice and its importance to mankind was necessary to keep His followers in remembrance of Him, the far-reaching saving effects of His atonement, and the blessings to humanity resulting from fulfilling His appointed sacrifice.

This ordinance of the sacrament was reaffirmed in our day; the Lord instructed in these words: "It is expedient that the Church meet together often to partake of bread and wine in the remembrance of the Lord Jesus." (D. & C. 20:75.)

President David O. McKay speaking to the twelve in one of the regular of the temple stated: "What a strength Thursday meetings in the upper room there would be in this Church if next Sunday every member who partook of the sacrament would sense the significance of the covenant made in that ordinance. Every member willing to take upon him the name of the Son, a true Christian, proud of it, and always remember Him in Church, in business, in society, always remember Him and keep His commandments that He has given them. How comprehensive that blessing and how significant the covenant we make each Sabbath day."

Now there are five very important points to the sacramental prayer. I am sure you know them, but I would like to refresh your memory. First, we partake of the sacrament in remembrance of the broken body and the spilt blood of Christ; second, we witness unto the Father that we will take upon ourselves the name of His Son; third, we pledge to always remember Him; fourth, we covenant to keep the commandments which the Lord has given us. And fifth, we have the promise that if we do these things, and it is assumed worthily, that we shall always have His spirit to be with us.

When the Lord loved us enough to die for us, we should be willing to show our love for Him by serving Him and keeping all of His commandments. The Lord said to the Nephites when He introduced to them the sacrament: "That whosoever breaketh this commandment suffereth himself to be led into temptation." In the Apostle Paul's message to the Corinthian saints he admonished, whosoever unworthily partook of the sacrament was the cause "many are weak and sickly

Elder Stapley

among you, and many sleep." This counsel indicates the importance of worthily partaking of the sacrament, to keep sacred our covenants with the Lord.

Also when partaking we renew our covenants and pledge to our Heavenly Father that we will keep His commandments and that we will faithfully serve Him. And now another choice statement by President McKay to the Council of the Twelve in the upper room of the Salt Lake Temple. He was discussing the ordinances of the House of the Lord and said: "When God becomes the centre of our lives, we lose self. We covenant to forget self. How perfectly," said President McKay, "our Lord and Saviour sets the example. He truly sought first the kingdom of God and His righteousness. He lived in the spirit; He lived for the spirit. He did not seek to perpetuate His physical life, but He sought to develop His spirit — living for others with God as the centre, and thus He saved His life—perpetuated it eternally, the only perfect man whoever walked the earth, the one who broke the bonds of death and brought eternal life."

And then this very significant counsel to the youth of the Church: "If we could get that thought over to our young people when temptation comes to them, it would be sufficient to preserve them from the temptation. Instead of thinking of themselves in the hour of temptation, if they would just forget self and think of mother and father, of the good name of the family and just lose themselves a moment for somebody else, they would have power to resist temptation.

"The same thing," said President McKay, "in business, the same thing in politics; if we could just make God the centre of our lives in thinking of His children, of those with whom we deal, we would have sufficient strength to overcome our weaknesses. This," said President McKay, "is just one phase of the covenant we have renewed this morning losing self for the good of others. Build bodies of men, groups of men, organisations of men in the world. That is our duty as representatives of our Lord and Saviour, Jesus Christ. Seek ye first the kingdom of God and His righteousness, and all these things will be added."

Then President McKay concluded by saying: "May the Lord give us power so to do." I pray that the Lord will also give us power so to do and that we when partaking of sacramental emblems will remember and pledge ourselves to keep the covenants entered into with our God.

Study The Bible

By

Elder Alma Sonne

Assistant to the Twelve

★ Like many of you, I believe in the Bible. It is the word of God. It is reliable and trustworthy. It contains the wisdom of the ages and is the source of all that is best in our modern life. It is an outline of history covering a period about which people generally are not well informed. From the standpoint of literature it ranks among the best, and I have found that among many writers and public speakers are those who are indebted to the Holy Bible for the effectiveness and renown of their literary production.

I often think of Abraham Lincoln's appraisal of the Bible and his acknowledgment of its value. It was not an offhand opinion given by him of this sacred volume. Lincoln was qualified to speak on this subject. He said, "This great book ... is the best gift God has given to man. All the good the Saviour gave to the world was communicated through that book. But for it we should not know right from wrong. It seems to me that nothing short of infinite wisdom could by any possibility have devised this excellent and perfect moral code." (August 1864.)

Lincoln's quotations from the Old and New Testaments are numerous. These quotations appear not only in his speeches but also in his private correspondence. In his second inaugural address, which is noted for its eloquence and its masterful presentation, scriptural quotations abound, and the

name of Deity is frequently used, and religious sentiment runs through the entire speech. President Lincoln, as you know, was a religious man without any church affiliation. He was often on his knees in prayer. Passages like the following were used by him:

"Judge not, that ye be not judged." (Matt. 7:1.)

"Woe unto the world because of offences! for it must needs be that offences come; but woe to that man by whom the offence cometh!" (Ibid., 18:7.)

" ... the judgments of the Lord are true and righteous altogether." (Psalm 19:9.)

Lincoln appeared to have unlimited confidence in scriptural teachings. He used them in private correspondence and in his daily conversations. In one of his letters he quotes from the third chapter and the 19th verse of Genesis: "In the sweat of thy face shalt thou eat bread, ... " In the same letter he quotes the golden rule and alludes to the temptations of Jesus. When asked to repeat his stand on a certain matter, he refused by quoting from the 16th chapter of Luke: " ... If they hear not Moses and the prophets, neither will they be persuaded, though one rose from the dead." (Verse 31.)

There can be no question about Lincoln's familiarily with the Bible, or that he read it frequently, and that he memorised large portions of it. His greatest speeches, like his farewell talk on leaving Springfield, his second inaugural, and his masterful oration at Gettysburg, furnish irrefutable evidence of the debt he owes the English Bible. Most people will agree that from the standpoint of greatness and wise statesmanship Lincoln tops the list.

I refer to this great American because I believe he is a product of the truths contained in the Holy Bible. These truths were part of him. They entered into his decisions, his philosophy, his contacts with his fellow men, his literary style, and his success as a leader of the nation. And so I urge the reading of the Bible. It is a powerful book and contains treasures of truth which are vital to man's development. It is a strong testimony of the existence of God and the divine mission of Jesus Christ.

May I suggest that you turn to the book itself instead of reading the commentaries of scholars and pretenders of religion. The latter will not satisfy, for the things of God are understood by the Spirit of God. But the Bible should be read searchingly as admonished by Jesus. It is and has been a source of comfort and strength in times of sorrow and disappointment. Its pages are filled with quotable passages concerning the conduct of man and his spiritual and moral well-being.

The influence of the Bible reaches into the laws and the governments of nations, into the art, literature, and folklore of races and communities. No book has wielded a wider influence.

I need not tell you that there is a peculiar sanctity and force about its words. In it are the messages of mighty prophets who " ... spake as they were moved upon by the Holy Ghost." (2 Peter 1:21.) History has proved that the Bible has altered the lives of men and nations. It has touched deeply the heart of humanity. Public men who have attained to eminence in our own country have been equipped with a knowledge of its contents. It is a converter of souls to a better life, to a belief in God and a wholesome respect for His laws and commandments.

Lift Up Your Eyes

By

Elder Sterling W. Sill

Assistant
to the Twelve

★ The Lord's reason for brining us to these valleys in the first place was not primarily to establish us in a condition of wealth and ease. We were brought here to build up the kingdom, to send out the message of the restoration to the nations, and to prepare the world for the glorious second coming of Christ. In these fields we must excel.

What a sobering responsibility it is to be entrusted with the message of universal salvation. But with the advantage in knowledge that we have received from our three great volumes of new scripture, supported by our own personal testimonies of the truth, what reason can we possibly give if we do not excel in faith and in education and in Godliness and in honour and in the personal preparation we make for eternal life?

Jesus once explained one source of His strength when he said, "My meat is to do the will of him that sent me, and to finish his work." (John 4:34.) Doing God's will is also our greatest possible source of strength. To encourage His disciples to follow Him in doing the Father's will, Jesus spoke some lines that I would like to use as a text. He said, "Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." (Ibid., 4:35.)

Certainly our day is a most urgent time to re-echo that theme. We should life up our eyes to see our duty and to understand our opportunities; to accept our responsibilities and to put truth in force in our lives. We should lift up our eyes to worship God and to serve our fellow men as the Lord has commanded.

We are, of course, all aware that there are other powerful influences in the world inviting us to look down to the earth. From the pinnacle of the temple, Satan said to Jesus, "Cast thyself down." Satan has been giving that same direction ever since with the most terrifying success. And the first step toward any failure is always merely to look down, to let earthly things absorb our interests. It is pretty difficult to look down and to look up at the same time.

It has been said that one may not always look where he is going, but will always go where he is looking. If we merely look down enough, many will be sure to fall.

Back in the days of the old sailing ships, a young, inexperienced seaman was sent aloft in a storm to disentangle a broken rigging from the mainmast. Despite the raging winds he climbed up quickly, and soon his mission was accomplished. But as he started to descend, he looked down, and as he looked down, he became dizzy and frightened He saw the angry, rolling sea. He felt the quiver of the trembling ship as it was tossed about by the waves. Then he became aware that his grip was weakening, and he cried to those on the deck below that he was about to fall. The captain shouted to him to stop looking down, and heeding his superior's command, he turned his eyes upward and soon regained his balance and self-confidence. Then he was able to make his way safely back to the deck.

The moral dizziness that always comes from looking down is one of our biggest personal problems. It is one of the significant characteristics of our day that as a people we are too much occupied with the things down. The newspapers, magazines, and our own inclinations center our attention on sin, crime, war, and material advantage. Then we get dizzy and confused, and our lives tend to lose their balance.

Here we have the communist example of where leaders of great nations have stopped looking up, and soon they have cast themselves down by centering their life's purposes in evil, including one of the greatest sins which is their attempted enslavement of other nations. When nations or individuals look down and recognize no higher authority than their own, they soon lose their sense of right and wrong. The communist leaders have deliberately destroyed many of their own people, and they would, if they thought they could, deprive every human being in the world of his God-given free agency without a moment's hesitation. They have closed up their churches by governmental decree and now make no pretense of lifting up their eyes, their thoughts, or their activities to God.

At Fulton, Missouri, on March 5, 1946,

Winston Churchill said, "A shadow has fallen across the scene so recently lighted by Allied victory. From Stettin in the Baltic to Trieste in the Adriatic, an iron curtain has descended across the continent." The communists have erected a vertical curtain, separating themselves from their fellow men and are thereby violating the second great commandment. But they have also erected a horizontal curtain over their heads, separating themselves from God, and are thereby violating the first and greatest commandment.

But we sometimes accomplish about the same thing individually by allowing the iron curtains of our material interest, our social affairs, and our spiritual indifference to separate us from God and draw our attention away from the main purpose of our lives. It doesn't take very long looking down before we are incapable of doing anything else.

In his **Inferno** Dante gave an account of an imaginary trip through hell. And one of hell's inmates said to him, "As our eyes intent on earthly things were never lifted up to heaven, so now doth justice fix them down upon the ground. And even as greed destroyed our love for good whereby the labors of our lives were lost, so now doth justice hold us captive here, fettered in close restraint."

We might see a reflection of our situation in John Bunyon's **Pilgrim's Progress** story of the man with the muckrake. Because this man spent his life raking unto himself the chaff and dust of the earth, he had trained himself to look in no direction but down. There was an angel standing over his head with a celestial crown in his hand, offering to exchange the crown for the muckrake. But because this man could look in no direction but down, he disregarded the offer of the angel as he continued to rake unto himself the chaff and muck of the earth.

We always begin this doward process as soon as we separate ourselves from God in any degree. The first and greatest commandment has to do with our first and greatest need, which is for God. That is, God created us, He gives us life and breath, He enlightens our minds and quickens our understandings. At this very moment God is sending us energy, food, and vitality from the sun. We do not live on an independent earth. If the sun's rays were turned off for just a few hours, there would be no life left upon this earth. And when men turn their backs on God and obey no higher law than their own, then truth, honor, and fairness lose their meaning. The angel's song of "Peace on earth, good will toward men" is an unintelligible concept to communist philosophy. Their wisest strategy and the point of their greatest excellence is to cause confusion, hatred, and strife among their fellow men. Mr. Mao, the communist dictator in China, recently said that he would welcome an atomic war, and we have every reason to belive that he was being entirely truthful in his declaration.

But as the captain in the storm called to the inexperienced seaman to look up, so the captain of our salvation is calling through the storms of our troubled lives saying that if we would avoid falling, we must look up to God.

We sing a song in which we say: "Look up, my soul, be not cast down, Cast not thine eyes upon the ground. Break off the shackles of the earth, Receive, my soul, a spirit's birth."

We are not likely to receive the spirit's birth while we are competing with each other in evil. We are born again only when we follow the direction

given to our lives by the temple spires and look up to our Heavenly Father. We need to trade in our muckrakes. There is an angel over our heads offering us the celestial kingdom if we will lift up our eyes and our hearts and our voices and our souls unto God. We need to remember the purpose of our lives and give a more enthusiastic response to the Master's invitation so appropriate to our day, wherein He had said, "Lift up your eyes, and look on the fields; for they are white already to harvest." (John 4:35.)

How Do I Feel Today

How do I feel now that I know the truth?
How do I feel today?
There's a smile on my face, and a glow in my heart,
What makes me feel this way?

I have found what I sought, I've found the true road,
My Father has shown me the way,
Through prophets in my time, He's given a guide,
It's no wonder I'm happy today.

How do I feel, the spirit to have
and the knowledge there is a true God,
How do I feel when I pray?
I am shining with joy, and I'm filled up with love,
There's a feeling of good I convey.

How much I pity the sad and confused, and the one's who can't find the way,
If all knew the truth and if all heard the word,
I'd be three times as happy today.

If I had the chance to travel the world,
to my brothers and sisters I'd say,
"Please listen to God and His true church today ,
And then you can all feel this way".

Sister Margaret Park,
East Kilbride Branch,
Scotland

The Good Name

By

Elder Boyd K. Packer

Assistant to the Twelve

★ The late President George Albert Smith once lay critically ill. Those close to him despaired of his life. He later recorded: "One day, under these conditions, I lost consciousness of my surroundings and thought I had passed to the other side. I found myself standing with my back to a large beautiful lake, facing a great forest of trees. There was no one in sight, and there was no boat upon the lake or any other visible means to indicate how I might have arrived there. I realized, or seemed to realize, that I had finished my work in mortality and had gone home. I began to look around, to see if I could not find someone . . .

". . . soon I found a trail through the woods which seemed to have been used very little, and which was almost obscured by grass. I followed this trail, and after I had walked for some time and had travelled a considerable distance through the forest, I saw a man coming toward me. I became aware that he was a very large man, and I hurried my steps to reach him, because I recognized him as my grandfather . . ." (I say parenthetically here that his grandfather was George A. Smith, First Counselor to President Brigham Young.) President Smith continues: "I remember how happy I was to see him coming. I had been given his name and had always been proud of it.

"When grandfather came within a few feet of me, he stopped. His stopping was an invitation for me to stop. Then—and this I would like the . . .

people never to forget—he looked at me very earnestly and said:

"'I would like to know what you have done with my name:

"Everything I had ever done passed before me as though it were a flying picture on a screen—everything I had done. Quickly this vivid retrospect came down to the very time I was standing there. My whole life had passed before me. I smiled and looked at my grandfather and said:

"'I have never done anything with your name of which you need be ashamed.'

"He stepped forward and took me in his arms, and as he did so, I became conscious again of my earthly surroundings. My pillow was as wet as though water had been poured on it—wet with tears of gratitude that I could answer unashamed."

This vision or dream of President Smith reminds each of us of the responsibility we bear with reference to the name that has been given us. We have taken upon ourselves the name of Christ and have entered into a covenant to remember Him always and to keep the commandments which He has given us, and in consequence of keeping the commandments there comes a promise that we shall have His Spirit to be with us.

Our measure will not depend on academic degrees or political preference or property or influence so much as simply how we lived at home. To be a worthy father is to be a faithful son. The formula for either is the same.

Where is your power? It is in the power of example. Where is your power to raise sons to do honour to your name. It is in the power of the priesthood.

Inspirational Message

by President N. Eldon Tanner

Second Counsellor in the First Presidency

★ Many argue that we cannot be honest and compete, that we cannot love our fellowmen as ourselves without their taking advantage of us, and that we cannot apply the principles of the gospel in dealing with other nations.

There are those, too, who claim that the gospel is old-fashioned; that men through scientific development are becoming more and more self-sufficient and need not rely on God. Others argue that the gospel is too restrictive, that it takes away our liberty, and that we cannot enjoy the advantages of a broad education, accept scientific truths, and participate in worthwhile community activities.

This is just not true. We know that the Lord has given us the earth and all things therein for our use and for our benefit. We have been told to subdue the earth. As members of the Church we are encouraged to gain an education, to learn what we can, to prepare ourselves to take our places in the world and to contribute all we can to the good and welfare of mankind.

The Lord's Witness

By

Elder Bruce R. McConkie

of the First Council of the Seventy

★ Shortly before the Church was organized, April 6, 1830, writing by the spirit of prophecy and revelation, Joseph Smith said that the Book of Mormon, which he had translated by the gift and power of God, was " . . . a record of a fallen people, . . ."; that it contained ". . . the fulness of the Gospel of Jesus Christ to the Gentiles and to the Jews . . . "; that it was ". . . given by inspiration, . . ."; that it had been ". . . declared unto the world by them—" all for this purpose—and note the purpose: to prove ". . . to the world that the holy scriptures are true, and that God does inspire men and call them to His holy work in this age and generation, as well as in generations of old;

" Thereby showing that he is the same God yesterday, today, and forever . . ." (D&C 20: 6-12.)

In other words, the Lord has given the Book of Mormon in this day as the absolute, sure, postive witness of the divinity of His work. We go out in the missionary cause, and we bear testimony in soberness and in truth, knowing the verity of what we say, that the heavens have been opened and that God has spoken again; that angels have ministered to men: that the gifts, powers and graces had anciently have been restored anew; that the Gospel and the plan of salvation are again on earth in all their ancient beauty and glory.

But this witness which we bear is not left to stand alone. The Lord sends with us a written record, a means, a missionary tool, which can be used by any person to gain a knowledge of the divinity of the work. The Prophet's expression that "the Book of Mormon is the keystone of our religion" means precisely what it says. The keystone is the central stone in the top of the arch. If that stone is removed, then the arch crumbles, which, in effect, means that Mormonism so-called—which actually is the Gospel of Christ, restored anew in this day—stands or falls with the truth or the falsity of the Book of Mormon. Thus our programme and our purpose, as witnesses of the Lord in this day, ought to be to devise ways and means and to create inducements that will persuade those who are not of

us to read the Book of Mormon and to read it according to the revealed pattern.

Moroni has left us in the Book of Mormon itself the recorded promise that if anyone will read it ". . . with real intent, having faith in Christ, . . ." and will ask ". . . God, the Eternal Father, in the name of Christ, . . ." whether it is true, he shall get a knowledge of its truth and divinity by personal revelation. (See Moroni 10: 3-4:) This promise is true. It has been tested by thousands and tens of thousands of people in the world, and they have received this personal revelation. Further, by His own voice, the Lord Himself testifies of the truth of the Book of Mormon in these words: ". . . as your Lord and your God liveth it is true:" (D&C 17:6.)

Now, our message to the world centers around three great truths. The first, the divine Sonship of Christ; the second, that in this day the knowledge of Christ and His saving truths have been restored through the instrumentality of Joseph Smith; and the third, that the Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints is the kingdom of God on earth, the organization through which salvation, hope, and peace are offered to all men.

Before any person is prepared to join the Church, he must believe that Jesus Christ is literally the Son of God; that as such He worked out the infinite and eternal atonement whereby all men are raised in immortality, and those who believe and obey His laws gain the additional reward of eternal life; and that He has ordained and revealed a plan of salvation which enables men so to live as to gain peace here and the fulness of salvation hereafter.

Before joining the Church a person must believe that Joseph Smith was

called of God to open this Gospel dispensation; that he was indeed a prophet who received keys, powers, authority, and revelation from heaven; that he was the revealer of the Gospel and the knowledge of God, of Christ, and of salvation for this age; and that he was commanded by Deity to set up His Church and kingdom again on earth.

Before baptism a person must believe that this Church is true; that it is in fact the Lord's earthly kingdom; that the priesthood and keys are here; that those who now officer it are legal administrators sent of God to preach the Gospel and administer in the ordinances thereof.

The Book of Mormon—which has come forth to prove that God inspires men and calls them to His holy work in this age and generation—establishes the verity of these great truths which comprise the message of the restoration. If the book of Mormon is true, our message to the world is truth; the truth of this message is established in and through this book.

Elder McConkie

The Book of Mormon is a new, living, modern witness of the divine Sonship of Christ. It testifies of Him and of the doctrines of His Gospel. It teaches of His atoning sacrifice; it proclaims that through Him men are redeemed from the spiritual and temporal death brought into the world by the fall of Adam. It outlines the course men must follow to gain eternal life.

The Book of Mormon stands as a witness of the divine Sonship of Christ; it has come forth for ". . . the convincing of the Jew and Gentile that **Jesus** is the **Christ,** the **Eternal God,** manifesting himself unto all nations—. . ." (Preface to the Book of Mormon.)

This book also is a witness of the divine mission of the Prophet Joseph Smith and of the divinity of the Church set up under his instrumentality. It establishes and proves to the world that Joseph Smith is a prophet, for he received the book from a resurrected personage and translated it by the gift and power of God. And since the Book of Mormon came by revelation, which included the ministering of angels, then obviously Joseph Smith also received other revelations and was ministered to by other heavenly beings. Among those revelations was the command to organize the Church. The Church is thus the one true Church because it was set up by a prophet acting under command of God. Thus the truth of the message of the restoration is established in and through and by means of the Book of Mormon.

No person can read this book, according to the prescribed pattern, and not know that it is true. No person can read this book, in the way Moroni directed, without getting in his heart the absolute, certain, sure knowledge that Jesus Christ is the Son of God. No person can read this book and learn of its divinity ". . . by the power of the Holy Ghost . . ." (Moroni 10:5), without knowing that Joseph Smith is a Prophet of God and that this Church, as now constituted, organized, and set up is God's kingdom on earth.

Missionary Work Aided By Special Programme

★ The Glasgow Stake Mission held a special missionary programme in the McLellan Art Galleries Dec. 3.

The meeting was designed to explain the teachings of the Church to the citizens of Glasgow.

Sister Catherine McDonald, Sister Jean McLaren, Pres. Arther Herbertson and Bro. Victor Thomson were the speakers. Music was presented by the stake Singing Mothers conducted by Catherine Richardson and accompanied by Anna Harvey.

Three hundred persons attended. The missionaries gained many contacts. The support of the full time missionaries and the fine work of Elder Langland was very much appreciated by the stake.

Stake Pres. A. R. Richardson conducted the meeting.

FOLLOW THE LEADER

by

Bishop Robert L. Simpson

of the Presiding Bishopric

★All boys seem to have a favorite game. They play it most of the time without even realizing it. It is called "Follow the Leader" and, dads, whether we like it or not, this is the way it is. So maybe we had better decide right here and now to lead right. Can we constantly break promises and teach our sons integrity? Speak an occasional falsehood and expect undeviating truth from them?

When was the last time you found your son looking up at you with that look of complete admiration and confidence? To them, dad is perfection, and we should do nothing to betray the trust and faith that is theirs in us.

We now find ourselves in a great age of acceleration, a turn to the left or right, however slight, can be of great consequence. Surely a five degree deviation travelling down the road behind old dobbin was not a serious miscalculation, and there was plenty of time to pull the reins and set things right. Travelling down the modern highway of life calls for strict attention to detail, for a slight deviation of our course can spell disaster in the fraction of a second. Ours is the most volatile age in the history of the world. How important it is that we train well to follow the white line, to hold fast to the iron rod.

Our sons are sent to us from our Heavenly Father's presence as free agents to be taught and persuaded—yes; to be forced and driven like cattle—never! It was established even before the foundations of the earth what the pattern should be. In that great council attended by you and me along with the hosts of heaven, we are told that Satan's plan of force and dictatorail power was rejected. Instead a plan of freedom and personal choice was decided upon, and so it must be in all our human relationships. We have often heard, "You can lead a horse to water, but you can't make him drink:"

No, dads, let's face it. The methods of compulsion and dictatorship are not compatible with the Lord's plan, but rather kindly persuasion through love and patience as expressed by the poet:

"Know this, that every soul is free,
To choose his life and what he'll be;
For this eternal truth is given
That God will force no man to heaven."

—William C. Gregg

Weddings

Sybil Chick and Antony Dockrill after their wedding at the Reading Chapel. The ceremony was performed by Pres. K. Wigglesworth.

ENGAGEMENT

★ Dorreen M. Mills, Eccles Branch, Preston District to Leon Abbott, Southport, Liverpool District. Wedding will take place at the Wythenshawe Chapel, Manchester Stake, on the 23rd of March, 1968, followed by temple sealing.

★ June Fountain of the East Hull Branch, North British Mission, was married on Oct. 21st to John Joseph of Coventry Ward, Leicester Stake. The couple first met on one of the M.I.A. Leadership Training Courses.

★ On Oct. 21st the wedding took place at South London Chapel of Hilda Mair and Barry Grant, who are both members of the Mitcham Branch.

★ On Oct. 28th Doreen Stevens of Sunderland Ward was married to James S. Laurie of the Hartlepool Ward. Bishop J. Laurie, father of the groom, performed

Rosalind Miller and Alan Carter, who were married Sept. 2, 1967, at South London Ward Chapel and then at the London Temple, Lingfield.

the ceremony in the Sunderland Stake House. After the reception in the Cultural hall, the couple left for their new home and journeyed to the Temple the following day.

Hilda Mair and Barry Grant of Mitcham, leaving the South London Ward Chapel following their marriage.

★ The first week of November was probably the most exciting in the life of Marilyn Waldron who lives in Redcar. On Nov. 2nd she celebrated her 21st birthday, and on the 3rd she was baptized a member of the Church at Middlesborough Ward Chapel, thus fulfilling a four year dream. On Saturday Nov. 4th, she was married to John Roberts of the Redcar Branch, at the Middlesborough Chapel. President Alan Brown of Redcar Branch performed the ceremony. The bride wore a full length dress of white lace, with a train of white lace frills. Her veil was also of lace. She carried a boquet of red roses and specially imported Dutch white lilies. The bridesmaids also wore dresses of white lace and carried bouquets of red carnations.

★ Selvoy J. Boyer, former British Mission President, and President of the London Temple from 1958 to 1963 was married on Nov. 22nd to Agnes McKay, a relative of President David O. McKay. Although they have known each other for two years their first date wasn't until Sept. 29th when they went to hear the Manchester Mormon Choir. They became engaged on Oct. 6th. Through the medium of the "Star" we send heartiest congratulations and best wishes for their future happiness on behalf of all who knew him.

BIRTHS

Oct. — To William and Christine Gardner of Hartlepool Ward Sunderland Stake a son Sean.

Oct. 14. — To Brother and Sister Ronald Gibbons of Northampton Branch Central British Mission, a daughter, Catherine Alison.

Nov. 1. — To John and Phillipa Davis of Wellington Branch Central British Mission, a daughter Caroline Jane.

Nov. 23. — To Derek and Muriel Cuthbert, Nottingham Ward, Leicester Stake, a son, Paul Nathan.

Nov. 14. — To G. Farrell and Dorotha Young, Huntingdon Branch, Central British Mission, a son.

OBITUARIES

★ Florence M. France of Sunderland Ward passed away on Oct. 19th. Converted to the Gospel when she was 23 years old, she spent the rest of her life in devoted service to the Church and particularly Relief Society.

★ Ellen Beatrice Dockrill, aged 46 years, of the Reading Branch, passed away after a long illness on Oct. 26th.

Sister Dockrill had suffered from a serious heart condition for some years, but attended Sunday School, Sacrament meetings and Relief Society meetings whenever possible. She was one of the first members of the Reading Branch, and her wonderful testimony of the Gospel, and sweet spirit were an inspiration to all who knew her. The funeral service was conducted by Reading Branch President, K. Wigglesworth, and was attended by many members and friends.

★ Nov. 3rd Mark Wills aged one year, after much illness. The foster son of Brother and Sister Rowlands of Northampton branch, who had cared for him from the age of 4 months and were negotiating for adoption.

★ Myrtle S. Robertson, of North Shields Ward, died suddenly on Nov. 4th, aged 55 years. It came as a great shock to all who knew this vigorous energetic sister whose devotion and testimony will never be forgotten. Everyone admired her tenacity in attending her Church meetings, distance, time, weather and expense never discouraged her and she always managed a smile, even though her legs were frequently a source of severe pain.

Being born into the Church she had numerous opportunities to develop her many talents, which made her very valuable to those around her. She loved to talk about the Church with whoever she came into contact, a habit which served her well on her full time mission during World War II. Her interesting and detailed lesson in Sunday School and Relief Society were punctuated with perky quips from her rich and varied experiences.

A fine spontaneous speaker, she served faithfully in many positions both in London and in the North, but friends will always recall her wonderful ability as chorister and the vibrant, strong and clear singing voice she controlled and projected at will to guide and assist her choirs in their various parts. It was a pleasure to be in her choir and to see and to feel her at work, to be directed by someone with enthusiasm and fire, who demanded your best and gave freely of her best.

Her funeral service was held on Nov: 8th, in the Newcastle Chapel, and was attended by over 200 members of the Sunderland Stake. One of her favourite hymns "I know that My Redeemer Lives" was sung by fifty Singing Mothers. James R. Cunningham and Stake President F. W. Oates paid tribute to this fine sister whose steadfastness and buoyant testimony will always linger in our minds.

★ On Nov. 9th Thomas William Garton of Tamworth died, aged 73 years. He was born at Hucknall and was baptised into the Church in 1902 at Nottingham. President Barlow of the Lichfield Branch conducted the funeral service on Nov. 14th.

★ Florence Kelly died on Sept. 19th aged 84 years. The funeral took place at the Dukinufield Crematorium on the 25th. The service was conducted by Elders Eades, Unsworth and Tippet. Sister Kelly had been a faithful member of the Hyde Ward, Manchester Stake.

Dr. Alexander Schreiner, before Liverpool's St. George's Hall.

The Schreiner Family Makes Musical News

★ Dr. Alexander Schreiner, Tabernacle organist of Salt Lake City, is not the only member of his family making interesting news these days. He has been in Great Britain several weeks now playing various concerts with much success and happiness.

This week in London he and Sister Schreiner told how their daughter, Julianne, has been accepted by the Paris Conservatory, probably the first Mormon to be so recognized, "which means a year's scholarship from the French government" he said. She has been a senior student at Stanford University, in California.

Dr. Schreiner noted she was one of three persons to receive unanimous voting of the seven judges. Miss Schreiner is a violinist.

Dr. Schreiner had just returned from Liverpool where the City of Liverpool engaged him for a concert in the palatial St. George's Hall.

"What pleased me most," he said, "over and above the enthusiastic reception given me, was that both in the placards posted on the streets of Liverpool and also on the programme, I was clearly billed as being from the Mormon Tabernacle. This could be the first time this has ever happened in Liverpool and sponsored by the city of Liverpool."

He was similarly treated during his engagement in the city of Birmingham where the concert took place in the old, but still very splendid City Hall auditorium where over a hundred years ago Felix Mendelssohn played the organ.

Dr. Schreiner was well pleased with the large crowd which gathered in Hyde Park Chapel with members bringing non-members as their price of admission. Dr. Schreiner announced he was "both ready, willing and able" to baptize and did baptize two persons into the Church.

He and Sister Schreiner are now on the continent travelling as far south as Rome and into all European countries for a series of concerts.

With Trust In God

By Loye Wright

". . . in God I have put my trust; I will not fear what flesh can do unto me." (Ps. 56:4.)

★ What were you doing on the afternoon of June 10, 1963? Probably you don't remember. But Ron Clark does. In fact, he will never forget. He was lying pinned beneath a two-ton cattle truck at the bottom of a desert wash. beside him were several of his best friends—dead. Around him was the bloody disaster that resulted when the big truck crashed backwards off a cliff, bearing the precious burden of 45 people. Now 12 of those 45 were dead. Twenty more were injured. Ron himself was trapped near the front of the heavy vehicle where the greatest weight was. His jaw had been severely knocked out of joint when the truck went over, and his left leg was crushed under the truck.

As soon as he could pull his arms and his right leg free, Ron set his jaw himself as best he could amid all the crying and screaming of the hurt passengers. The unhurt MIA superintendent who had been accompanying the group of Scouts, for whom this trip was to have been a super activity, was making the rounds, checking the extent of the damage. When he reached Ron he asked him how badly he was hurt. The young man tipped his head back.

"Charlie," his voice trembled, "I've lost my leg." He couldn't feel a bit of life in his left leg, and terrible visions of the future raced through his mind. But despite the pain and worry, it was Ron who kept telling the others, "It's all right. They're going to get us out of here."

Ron was the last one pulled from the wreckage. Soon after he was taken to the Panguitch Hospital, his family arrived from Provo.

"I'm all right, Mother," he had said.

This 16-year-old Explorer showed remarkable courage. And a few days later he was called upon to show perhaps even greater valor.

He was sent home, where he had to be fed through a straw because he could not move his badly swollen jaw. He could hardly speak. He couldn't sing. For Ron that was very serious. All during his life he had brought a great deal of beauty and pleasure into the lives of those who had heard his incomparable voice. When he was only 12 years old, he sang his way into the hearts of those at general conference who heard

his lovely renditions of "Listen, Dear Teacher" and "When He Comes Again." Only a year ago he had sung in a chorus at stake conference. His friends had sung with him then—the same ones who helped plan the trip to Southern Utah.

He remembered how happy they all had been: Randy Miller, Lynn Merrell, Gary Christensen, Gary Rasmussen, Joe Erickson, and Gordon Grow—all good friends. Those were happy days. Ahead of him now was Gordon's funeral and the next day, the joint funeral for five of his closets pals. Ron could only get around a little with the aid of crutches when the stake president, Ben E. Lewis, called on him.

"Ronnie," he had said, "the families want you to sing at the funeral."

How could he? His jaw was badly swollen for movement. Besides . . . these were five very special guys.

"You can do it," President Lewis promised, "if you will pray, and if you really want to."

He really wanted to. The next few days were filled with prayer. He knew only the Lord could help him accomplish this incredible task.

The morning of the funeral he couldn't eat; the jaw was rigid, and he spoke through closed teeth. Practicing beforehand was a fiasco. With those clenched teeth he could get no resonance or carrying power. But he had given his word.

His earnest prayers continued right up to the time he sat with his brother Bob in the choir loft of the old Provo Tabernacle.

Then suddenly, minutes before he was to sing,an overwhelmingly peaceful feeling settled on him, and Ron turned to his brother. "I can move my jaw!" he whispered. "It feels all right!"

He picked up his crutches, limped over to the organ, and with a faint smile nodded to organist Byron Jensen. The young Explorer stood up tall and looked below at the flower-covered caskets bearing the bodies of five of the friends he had buddied with practically all his life. How could he sing?

His voice rose, beautiful and pure. "May the good Lord bless and keep you . . ." The unwavering notes filled the tabernacle and soared to heaven on the summer breeze. "Fill your dreams with sweet tomorrows. Never mind what might have been . . ." The melody was strong until the last, but then . . .he couldn't go on. He faltered, then whispered, ". . . till we meet again:"

Tears coursed down the faces of the fifteen hundred sobbing people gathered in the tabernacle— tears shed not only for the five boys who had been taken, but tears also for the courage of a young Explorer with a puffy jaw.

As for that jaw—immediately after the song, it locked shut again, and weeks passed before Ron could open it.

Nobody can tell Ron that miracles don't happen. He's had a few close calls since then, too, but he's now living the dream of his life—a mission, in the Eastern Atlantic States. But miracles don't happen all by themselves. It takes real faith, sincere prayers, and a lot of personal effort. In this case, all were supplied in abundance by a very strong young man.

Conversion To The Truth

★ The age of miracles has not passed, it is here with us if we have eyes to see and ears to hear. We can hear that still, small voice of conscience and of the Holy Spirit, who speaks in the silence of the night when we commune with our Creator.

It was certainly a miracle which led Eileen Davies to the portals of the chapel in Cardiff and inspired her to knock at the door after reading the inscription "Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints," and ask to be shown around.

Sister Davies had been a Catholic Nun for more than thirty-three years in England and Rome. A few years ago, however, she had surprised and indeed shocked everyone by asking the Pope to release her from her vows as she felt her work was hampered by the new constitutions and rules of the order.

The Mother Superior, after shedding many tears, had exclaimed "God has some great work you cannot do in the Convent." Those prophetic words were to ring again in the ears of Sister Davies. Let us hear her story in her own words.

"I came to Cardiff to say goodbye to my relatives, before returning to Venice. I thought I would spend a few weeks to try and recapture that spiritual fervour I had had when a girl of nineteen, which inspired me to leave all things, and follow the Divine Master.

"I prayed fervently, 'Oh God, a contrite and humble heart thou will not despise,' I cried with the Psalmist. I little dreamed of the way my prayers were to be answered. I went to visit my sister in Rhiwbina and saw a new

church on the corner as I got off the bus. New churches were not extraordinary in Cardiff, but what was extraordinary was that I was urged to go over and look at the name. 'The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints,' the words intrigued me. I felt compelled to enter, but the door was closed.

"The next day I returned earlier and found the door open. I ventured in and asked the custodian if he would show me around. Classrooms, gymnasium, kitchen, I thought how much it is like the convent school. When I entered the chapel those prophetic words of Reverand Mother rang in my ears, 'God has some work for you that you cannot do in the Convent.' I turned to the custodian and said, 'Is there someone who can explain what spirituality this Church has to offer?'

"He took me to the Branch Presidents' office and President Ivan C. Taylor outlined briefly the foundation and the teachings of the 'Mormon Church.' Three hours later I staggered out of his office dumbfounded and shattered. It seemed incredible that the Catholic Church was not the church that our blessed Saviour had founded on earth. I thought of all those good people who had worked with me in the mission field teaching the Gospel; the people whom we had prepared for baptism and realized that even we, were not baptized at all. My soul was greaved! My world had collapsed!

"President Taylor told me later that he would never forget the look in my eyes. I could not believe the Catholic Church did not have the Priesthood, and that the Pope was not Christ's Vicar on earth. Why, oh why did God leave the earth without the true Gospel until 1830? All those centuries! I am afraid I wrestled with the Holy Ghost for many weeks and my zealous missionary teacher had a dfficult time.

"But with St. Paul I was bound to say 'Whom am I to withstand God? At a certain point the Holy Spirit took over and I saw without a shadow of a doubt that Christ was standing on the shore bidding me to come to Him, not on the water, but out of the waters of baptism. Oh, what a cleansing! Oh, what joy to know that all my transgressions were then washed away and I could begin a new life!

I bear my testimony. Christ is the only Begotten Son of God and the restored Gospel is the word of God. God, who uses the weak and the lonely, raised up Joseph Smith to be a Prophet and he was the instrument of the restoration of His Church. 'Lord, I do believe,' I say humbly with the blind man in the Gospel."

Mercy—Charity Needed

★ We need mercy; then let us be merciful. We need charity; let us be charitable. We need forgiveness; let us forgive. Let us do unto others what we would that they should do unto us. Let us welcome the new year and dedicate to it our best efforts, our loyal service, our love and fellowship, and our supplication for the welfare and happiness of all mankind.

—President Joseph F. Smith

He Heard The Truth

By
Ashley Hallwood, Croydon Branch,
British Mission

★ So many wonderful things have happend to me in the few months since I became a member of Christ's Restored Church, it hardly seems possible that as recently as June of this year I knew little or nothing about the Mormons.

Through the medium of television, films and books, I had formulated a set of ill-conceived fallacies, which I took to be facts about that strange cult of people who claimed to have had the Gospel restored to them by a deluded madman named Joseph Smith. I believed the Mormons to be nothing more than a highly fanatical and puritanical religious sect who practised polygamy, and based their doctrines on a mumbo-jumbo of so-called divine revelations from God.

It was while I was vacationing in New York City that I first encountered Mormons in the shape of two clean-cut, smartly dressed, young missionary elders. When they knocked on my door and told me that they had a message for me about a second witness for Christ, known as The Book of Mormon, I was impressed by their sincerity and the glowing enthusiasm with which they unfolded their story of a living prophet called by God in our own time.

But, owing to the myth that I had built up in my mind about Mormons, I wasn't at all interested at the time in what they had to say. There were a countless number of different sectarian groups, each claiming to be the only true church. Why should this one be any different? What did they have

that was so special, that set them apart form everyone else?

I only half listened to them, took the Book of Mormon which they offered to me and, more to please them than anything else, agreed to let them send a couple of elders to tell me more when I returned to England. I never for one moment thought I'd ever see or hear of them again. I packed my Book of Mormon away in the depths of my suitcase as nothing more than an unusual book with which to impress my friends. I promptly forgot about the whole thing and returned to the pleasures of the flesh that had become my way of life.

But life was soon to change for me. If anyone had told me then that I would lay aside these wordly pleasures for the happiness that only the love and knowledge of God can bring, I would have laughed in their faces. But now I can bear testimony to the fact that this is what has happend, that I no longer need or even miss my former vices and that life for me has become a thing of joy and exhaltation.

It all happend so very fast once I arrived home in England. Almost immediately I found yet another pair of elders on my doorstep and this time, thanks be to God, I decided to listen to what they had to say. I had plenty of time on my hands, it could do no harm to at least give them a hearing and make an honest effort to assimilate their words, whether or not I accepted them as true. So I listened and as they unfolded their story I suddenly knew, as if in a flash of inspiration from heaven, that what they were saying **was** true.

All my life I had wanted to believe in some sort of a God and my search for the truth had taken me from church to church. None of them seemed to have what I was looking for. I vainly tried to accept their doctrines and teachings but for me there was always something missing. I couldn't put my finger on it but I knew in my heart that there was something more, if only I could find it. And here it was, at long last, staring me in the face. I had found the truth, and I knew it!

But the elders told me not to merely take their word that the things they said were true, they told me that if I humbled myself in prayer before my Heavenly Father and asked Him then He would manifest the truth to me. So I learned to pray for the first time, and found to my surprise that it really did work. Since then prayer has become a very necessary and richly rewarding part of my life, for now I know that I have a Heavenly Father to whom I can talk just like a friend, and who really does hear me and answers my prayers.

So convinced was I by the elder's words that the very next day I accompanied them to church and, a mere three weeks later, felt proud and privileged to be baptised and confirmed as a member of The Church of Jesus Christ of Latter-day Saints. Since then I've never looked back. I've had no regrets, no longings for my former life. Every day I'm finding that my testimony continues to grow. I recently had the double honour of being ordained a Deacon in the Aaronic Priesthood, and of being called as a District Missionary. I appreciate the loyal help and support that I find in my branch. The warm love and fellowship that we have one for another only serves to convince me more each day that God lives.

As members of His true Church, we have the greatest honour and responsibility that mere man can attain to—devote our lives to the glory of God and to the winning of souls for His Celestial Kingdom.

Paul Shreeve, Active Youth

★ Paul Shreeve, 16, Norwich Sunday School secretary, is a very active young man. Presently a priest, he has been a member of the Church for the past seven years.

In addition to his Church activities he has been a member of a local Scout

troop, passing through the Cub Scout and Scout organisation to be a Venture Scout. He has earned Scouting's First Class Scout award, 16 proficiency badges, Bushman's Thong and recently gained the Queen's Scout Badge, the highest Scout award to be earned by a member of the Church in this locality.

While a patrol leader, he won both the Troop and District camping trophies two years running. At present he is Cub Scout instructor in his former Cub Scout Pack.

Paul is now studying for A-levels in maths, physics and chemistry at the City of Norwich School, having gained 11 passes at G.C.E. 'O' level, including four distinctions. He is a son of Mr. and Mrs. J. S. Shreeve.

Vincent Harvey Is Busy Medical Student

★ Vincent Harvey is a fifth year medical student at the Glasgow University, and recently held the position of president of the Medical Students Association.

During the summer vacation he worked as an intern in the LDS Hospital in Salt Lake City and had the wonderful experience of meeting with President David O. McKay who was a patient at the time having a checkup. President McKay spoke about Scotland and jokingly told Bro. Harvey it was about time he thought of getting married.

During his stay in Salt Lake City, Bro. Harvey enjoyed the fellowship of the Saints in the University 13th Ward. He visited the Salt Lake and Logan temples and learned a great deal while working in the hospital.

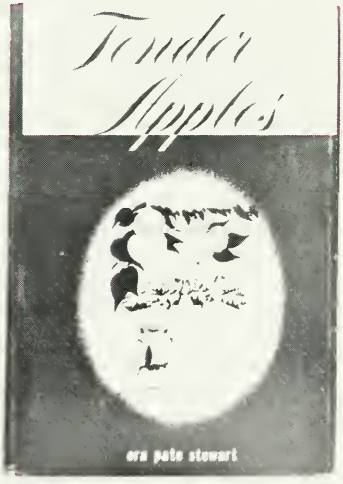
Although his studies demand much of his time he still devotes a portion to the Lord. He serves as superintendent of the Sunday School in the Pollock Ward in the Glasgow Stake, and as first counselor in the Elders Quorum.

With President McKay's approval and gracious co-operation, this book, **Gospel Ideals,** has been prepared for presentation to the unnumbered thousands who will read these words of counsel and advice and consolation and encouragement from a beloved President.

29/-

In this book, **Tender Apples,** there are chapters that will touch the reader deeply. The philosophy, the work, the honesty help dignify these desirable traits of character in an age when many tend to discredit them.

28/6



★

DESERET ENTERPRISES LTD.

288 LONDON ROAD, MITCHAM, SURREY

TELEPHONE MITCHAM 2535

Hezekiah's Tunnel

By Doyle L. Green

Managing Editor of The Improvement Era

★ Underneath the holy city of Jerusalem are a number of subterranean passages and other excavations that have played important roles in the long and kaleidoscopic history of that ancient city. One of these is known as Hezekiah's tunnel, or the tunnel of Siloam. It conveys water from the famed spring of Gihon, also called the Fountain of the Virgin, to the pool of Siloam. The story of the digging of this ancient tunnel and the circumstances surrounding it are fascinating to anyone interested in the people and times of the Old Testament.

Historians say that the spring provided water for Jerusalem as far back as 3,000 B.C. Its waters flow out of a crack in the rocks at a rate reported to be some 250,000 gallons a day. It is first mentioned in the Bible in connection with the anointing of Solomon after Adonijah had attempted to seize the throne.
(1 Kings 1:38-39.)

Let us go back in history to the time of the prophet Isaiah 700 years before the birth of Christ.

Hezekiah, a descendant of David, was king of Judah. Unlike King Ahaz, his father, King Hezekiah followed the ways of the Lord and often sought and received divine guidance through Isaiah. During his reign the temple was repaired and reopened, the passover was kept again. and pagan alters were torn down. Speaking to the Levites, King Hezekiah had said, ". . . sanctify now yourselves, and sanctify the house of the Lord God of your fathers, and carry forth the filthiness out of the holy place.

"Now it is in mine heart to make a convenant with the Lord God of Israel, that his fierce wrath may turn away from us." (2 Chron. 29:5, 10.)

Certainly the wrath of the Lord seemed to be upon the people of Judah during the reign of wicked King Ahaz, for they were smitten in turn by armies of Syria, Israel, and Edom. (See 2 Chron. 28:5,e 17) But Hezekiah freed Judah of the yoke of their captors:

"He trusted in the Lord God of Israel; so that after him was none like him among all the kings of Judah, nor any that were before him.

"For he clave to the Lord, and departed not from following him, but kept his commandments, which the Lord commanded Moses.

"And the Lord was with him; and he

prospered whithersoever he went forth: and he rebelled against the king of Assyria, and served him not." (2 Kings 18:5-7.)

These were troubled times for the peoples of Palestine. In the fourth year of Hezekiah's reign, Shalmaneser, king of Assyria, led his armies against the northern kingdom of Israel and took many of the people into captivity.

During the years that followed, the armies of Assyria attacked the walled cities of Judah and captured them one by one until 46 had fallen. The great city of Jerusalem seemed to be doomed. Hezekiah tried to make peace, and the new Assyrian king, Sennacherib, demanded tribute. To try to meet his demands and keep peace, Hezekiah gave not only the treasures from his own house, but also all of the silver and gold from the temple, even removing the precious metal from the doors and pillars of the holy house. Still the Assyrian king threatened Jerusalem with annihilation if the city did not surrender. In this time of great trial Hezekiah turned to the Prophet Isaiah for guidance and sent his servants to the prophet to tell him of their plight.

"And Isaiah said unto them, Thus shall ye say to your master, Thus said the Lord, Be not afraid of the words which thou hast heard, with which the servants of the king of Assyria have blasphemed me.

"Behold, I will send a blast upon him, and he shall hear a rumor, and shall return to his own land; and I will cause him to fall by the sword in his own land." (2 Kings 19:6-7.)

With this assurance Hezekiah refused to give up the city. To his people he said:

"Be strong and courageous, be not afraid nor dismayed for the king of Assyria, nor for all the multitude that is with him: for there be more with us than with him:

Hezekiah's Tunnel

"With him is an arm of flesh; but with us is the Lord our God to help us, and to fight our battles. . . ." (2 Chron. 32: 7-8.)

Sennacherib, however, was a master of intrigue; he sent men inside the city to try to influence the people to turn against their king and surrender. The mesage they bore was:

"Doth not Hezekiah persuade you to give over yourselves to die by famine and by thirst, saying, The Lord our God shall deliver us out of the hand of the king of Assyria?

"Now therefore let not Hezekiah deceive you, nor persuade you on this manner, neither yet believe him: for no god of any nation or kingdom was able to deliver his people out of mine hand, and out of the hand of my fathers: how much less shall your God deliver you out of mine hand?" (2 Chron. 32: 11, 15.) He also tempted the people with promises of a better life if they would cast their lot with him. (See Isaiah 36.)

When these tactics proved ineffective, Sennacherib sent a letter to Hezekiah, demanding that he surender. Taking the letter first to Isaiah, then to the temple, Hezekiah placed it before the Lord and asked what should be done. Again the Lord spoke to Isaiah and told him to let the king know that He had heard his prayer and would not permit the Assyrians to capture the city.

In the meantime Hezekiah had set about strengthening the fortifications of Jerusalem. One of his greatest concerns must have been for the water supply. He realized that because the spring Gihon was outside the city wall, if the Assyrians attacked they could not only cut off the water supply from the city but could alsc use it for their own purposes.

So Hezekiah called his "princes and his mighty men" together, and it was proposed that a tunnel be dug through the mountain from the spring in the Kidron Valley to the Tyropoeon Valley so that the precious water from Gihon could be diverted into the city.

It was a bold and daring proposal, and one can imagine the heated discussions that must have taken place, especially when it was suggested that because of the limited time two crews should start from opposite sides of the mountain and dig towards each other. Were the calculations of the engineer correct? Could they dig that far through solid rock with their crude tools? Would the two crews ever meet? Would they finish the tunnel in time? Could they engineer it so the water would flow through ?

Hezekiah must have made the final decision, perhaps in consultation with Isaiah, and the word was given to proceed with the project with all haste. In time the two crews did meet, the tunnel was finished, the water was diverted through it into Jerusalem, and the pool of Gihon was covered over so that the Assyrian armies could not find it.

We had read about Hezekiah's tunnel, but it had never stirred our imagination until we had the opportunity of exploring it with other members of a Brigham Young University Bible Lands tour group in the summer of 1966.

Our local guide had been through it some years earlier and said we would have to be prepared to wade, as the water would be about a foot deep.

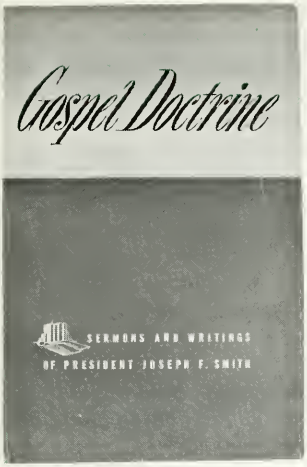
After obtaining candles, we descended the 34 wide stone steps leading down to the spring of Gihon, tested the cool waters with our toes, and stepped into the pool to make our way over to the tunnel.

The adventure turned out to be a fabulous experience. The tunnel is almost 600 yards long, and our thin candles were almost burned out by the time we reached the other end. As we inspected the tunnel we were amazed at the work that had gone into the undertaking by those ancient people. Every foot of the tunnel is through solid rock. No braces of any kind were used. The workmen's tools must have been crude picks and chisels and hammers. Surely they had no dynamite or drills as we have today. All of the rock chippings must have been carried out in baskets on the shoulders of the workmen. Anyone who has ever worked in a mine will wonder how freash air was provided.

We were awed by their engineering ability. The tunnel has many twists and turns and is in the shape of a modified S. We speculated that it would have been difficult enough for these people to have started at one end and to have dug their way through the mountain to a predetermined spot without the instruments and knowledge that we have today, but the very thought of their starting from both sides and meeting in the middle was so remarkable that we could hardly comprehend it.

The tunnel varies greatly in shape and size, but generally it is perhaps some 12 to 18 inches wide on the bottom, and slopes out to three or sometimes four feet. The tunnel ranges in height from perhaps six feet to as much as 15 or 20 feet in some places. The bottom is relatively smooth all the way, but in some places rocks of varying sizes cover it, and it was not surprising that some of our party emerged with bruised feet and bleeding toes. We were in the tunnel for over an hour; and as the candles burnt lower and we could not see the end because of the

Continued on page 76



Gospel Doctrine

Joseph Fielding Smith

This compilation constitutes a compendium of the doctrines and teachings of the Church that we believe will stand as a safe guide for its members for generations to come.

28/6

plus postage

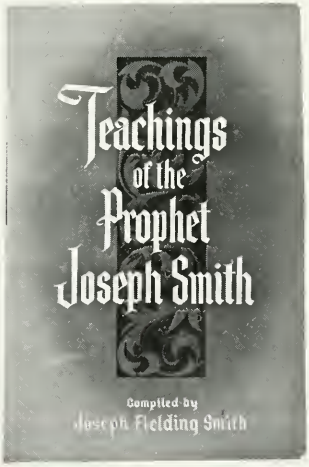
Teachings of the Prophet Joseph Smith

compiled by
Joseph Fielding Smith

Long a popular favourite on every teacher's reference shelf, this book hews close to the material which officers and teachers so frequently need.

25/-

plus postage



★ **BOOKCRAFT** ★
1186 South Main
Sait Lake City, Utah 84101

Obtainable from:
DESERET ENTERPRISES LTD., 288, London Road, Mitcham, Surrey

Continued from page 74

curves, we bolstered our spirits by singing, "Come, Come Ye Saints.'

But at last we emerged from the passage into the pool of Siloam. This is a spot in Jerusalem we hadn't visited before but had eagerly looked forward to seeing, as it is a pool that is associated with an important event in the ministry of the Saviour. To this pool Jesus sent the man who had been blind from birth to wash his eyes, after the Master had anointed them with clay; and having done so, the man was healed (See John 9:1-7.)

The pool itself is about 18 feet wide and 52 feet long. It was a beehive of activity. A number of women were squatting on the rock bank washing clothes, a dozen or more children were swimming and bathing, and there were many spectators. Perhaps in earlier times the pool was closer to the level of the surrounding land; today it is some 30 feet below the surface and is approached only by a stone stairway.

Considering the magnitude of the undertaking of digging this tunnel and its importance in the history of Jerusalem, it seems a little surprising that the writers of the Bible treat it in such a seemingly casual manner. The book of 2nd Chronicles reveals:

"This same Hezekiah also stopped the upper watercourse of Gihon, and brought it straight down to the west side of the city of David. . . ." (2 Chron. 32: 30.)

"And when Hezekiah saw that Sennacherib was come, and that he was purposed to fight against Jerusalem,

"He took counsel with his princes and his migty men to stop the waters of the fountains which were without the city: and they did help him.

"So there was gathered much people together, who stopped all the fountains, and the brook that ran through the midst of the land. saying, Why should the kings of Assyria come, and find much water?" (2 Chron. 32:2-4.)

Second Kings makes only a brief reference to this great feat:

"And the rest of the acts of Hezekiah, and all his might, and how he made a pool, and a conduit, and brought water into the city, are they not written in the book of chronicles of the kings of Judah?" (2 Kings 20:20.)

The account of how the engineers and workmen of King Hezekiah started on the tunnel from both ends and met deep in the mountain was not discovered until the year 1880. One day two young boys were playing in the pool of Siloam and dared each other to go into the dark tunnel. Further and further they went, without any light, cautiously feeling their way with their hands along the sides. Some 300 yards inside the tunnel one of the boys felt a smoother surface on the wall, with what seemed to be characters engraved into it. Emerging from the tunnel he hurried to his teacher in the Boys' School of the London Mission to the Jews and told of the experience. They returned to the tunnel, supplied with torches, went into it, confirmed the fortunate discovery. The now famous writing is known as the Siloam inscription. Experts tell us that it is an example of the oldest known Hebrew writing. It is translated thus:

"Behold the excavation. Now this is the history of the excavation. While the excavators were still lifting up the pick, each toward his neighbour, and while there were yet three cubits to excavate, there was heard the voice of one man calling to his neighbour . . . and after that the excavators had struck pick against pick, over against one another, the water flowed from the spring to the pool for a distance of 1200 cubits."

One will search in vain for the inscription in the tunnel today, since it has long since been chiseled out of the wall by robbers and taken out of the country. It is now in the Museum of the Ancient Orient in Istanbul.

There is a postscript that should be added to the story of Hezekiah. So great was his faith and so good were his words that he received a blessing that probably few men have ever experienced. He became very ill; in fact, the scriptures say that "he was sick unto death," insomuch that the Prophet Isaiah came to him and suggested that he set his house in order, for he was going to die. But Hezekiah felt that his work was not finished. Perhaps the tunnel had not yet been completed. Perhaps he knew that the people needed his strength and leadership.

In his writings Antiquitis of the Jews, the Jewish historian Flavius Josephus says: "Yet while he (Hezekiah) was very zealous and diligent about the worship of God; did he soon afterwards fall into a severe distemper, insomuch that the physicians despaired of him, and expected no good issue of his sickness, as neither did his friends: and besides the distemper itself, there was a very melancholy circumstance that disordered the king, which was the consideration that he was childless, and was going to die, and leave his house and his government without a successor of his own body; so he was troubled at the thoughts of this his condition, and lamented himself, and entreated of God that he would prolong his life for a little while till he had some children, and not suffer him to depart this life before he was become a father." (P. 301.)

The scriptures do not confirm this account, but in any event, Hezekiah prayed to the Lord, saying, "Remember now, O Lord, I beseech thee, how I have walked before thee in truth and with a perfect heart, and have done that which is good in thy sight. . . ."

Through Isaiah, Hezekiah received the message, "Thus saith the Lord, the God of David thy father I have heard thy prayer, I have seen thy tears: behold, I will add unto thy days fifteen years.

"And I will deliver thee and this city out of the hand of the king of Assyria: and I will defend this city." (See Isa. 38:1-6; 2 Kings 20:1-6.) As a sign, the Lord caused the sun to be moved ten degrees backwards. (See 2 Kings 20: 8-11; Isa. 38:7-8.)

True to his promise, the Lord prolonged Hezekiah's life and protected the city of Jerusalem.

King Sennacherib never attacked the city, but soon left Palestine and returned to Ninneveh. Later two of his own sons killed him with swords as he was worshiping his pagan god.

Perhaps one should not look for physical evidences to help substantiate the truthfulness of the scriptures. Nevertheless, such "proof' is interesting. Of all the archaeological evidences of the Old Testament we have seen in our ventures through the Holy Land, none seems to bring the scriptures closer or give them more meaning and reality than does Hezekiah's tunnel. The city of David itself has been changed, destroyed, and rebuilt numerous times over the years. Perhaps none of the buildings that Isaiah or Hezekiah knew remain. The Tyropeon Valley has been filled in with 30 to 60 feet of debris, the Kidron Valley is not as deep as it was, the level of most of the city itself is some 25 to 30 feet higher than it was in former times. But this subterranean passage, built by the workmen of King Hezekiah, and through which water has been flowing for 2,700 years, remains unchanged and helps to make the story of the Prophet Isaiah and Hezekiah and their times come alive, and gives added meaning, significance, and realism to this part of the Old Testament.

Repentance Principle

Explained by Student

By Gilbert J. H. McCabe

former Oxford University Deseret Club President

★ There are two essential aspects of the principle and law of repentance as taught in the Bible and in modern revelation: change of mind and change of behaviour.

The implications of the Greek and Latin terms also indicate two separate facets to this doctrine: the Greek word for repentance emphasises the positive and forward-looking concept of "enthusiasm to work righteousness," while the Latin word has a retrospective connotation of lamenting past wrongs. This two-fold concept is clearly taught in Ezekiel 18:31:

"Cast away from you all your transgressions, whereby ye have transgressed; and make you a new heart, and a new spirit; for why will ye die, O House of Israel?"

Firstly we are commanded to cast away all our transgressions (committed in the past) and make within us "a new heart and a new spirit."

Many are the reasons given in Scripture why we should repent: for instance D. & C. 1:31-33 enumerate three reasons. Firstly the Lord "cannot look upon sin with the least degree of allowance"; secondly we shall be forgiven if we repent of our transgressions and obey His commandments ('make you a new heart') and thirdly, if we do not repent we shall lose the light we have received and we are further warned that the Lord's Spirit will not always strive with us.

The commandment and encouragement implicit in the Saviour's words: 'Be ye therefore perfect even as your father which is in Heaven is perfect', gives one explanation why the Lord cannot look upon sin 'with the least degree of allowance'. The record uses the word 'cannot', and not another word such as 'does not'. Why?—To re-enter the presence of our Father in Heaven with the blemishes of sin still on our souls is against the Order of Heaven. Alma, the High Priest, asks the following question for us:

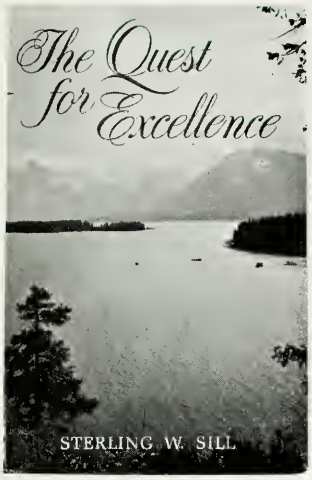
"Do ye imagine to yourselves that ye can lie unto the Lord in that day?"

Continued on page 80

Deseret Book

COMPANY

44 EAST SO TEMPLE AND AT COTTONWOOD MALL
SALT LAKE CITY
2472 WASHINGTON BLVD OGDEN
777 SO MAIN ST ORANGE CALIFORNIA



The Quest for Excellence

Sterling W. Sill

This newest book by Sterling W. Sill stimulates us to more effectively meet life's challenges. Every chapter has a theme involving an important principle of significant accomplishment.

31/3

plus postage

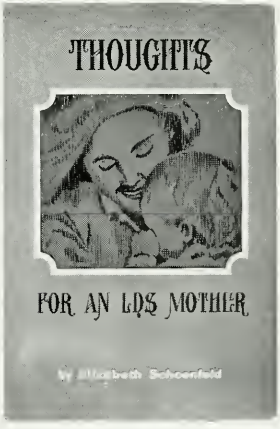
Thoughts for An LDS Mother

Elizabeth Schoenfeld

Readers will appreciate the blend of sentiments expressed, in which pithy advice on such timely matters as personal finances rub shoulders with lofty thoughts on life's purposes and meanings.

14/9

plus postage



Obtainable from:

DESERET ENTERPRISES LTD., 288, London Road, Mitcham, Surrey

Continued from page 78

Were we to lie and claim we had lived righteously and we had not done so, the remembrance of all our guilt would prevent us from being at ease. Those who inherit the highest degree of the Celestial kingdom will have a completely pure heart.

"And he that repents not, from him shall be taken even the light which he has received." If the light is removed then darkness prevails, meaning that the light and guidance of the Spirit of the Lord shall no longer strive with us: we then become dead to this sacred source of righteous influence. This is what Ezekiel had in mind in his 18th chapter: through His prophet the Lord asks:

"Have I any pleasure at all that the wicked should die?" In verse 32 He answers:

"For I have no pleasure in the death of him that dieth."

The use of the verb to die is here symbolic: it indicates the death of spiritual influence on an individual (see the last half of verse 23: "that he should return from his ways and live"). The greatest thought that the prophet Ezekiel gives his reader is contained in the simple words:

"Make you a new heart and a new spirit."

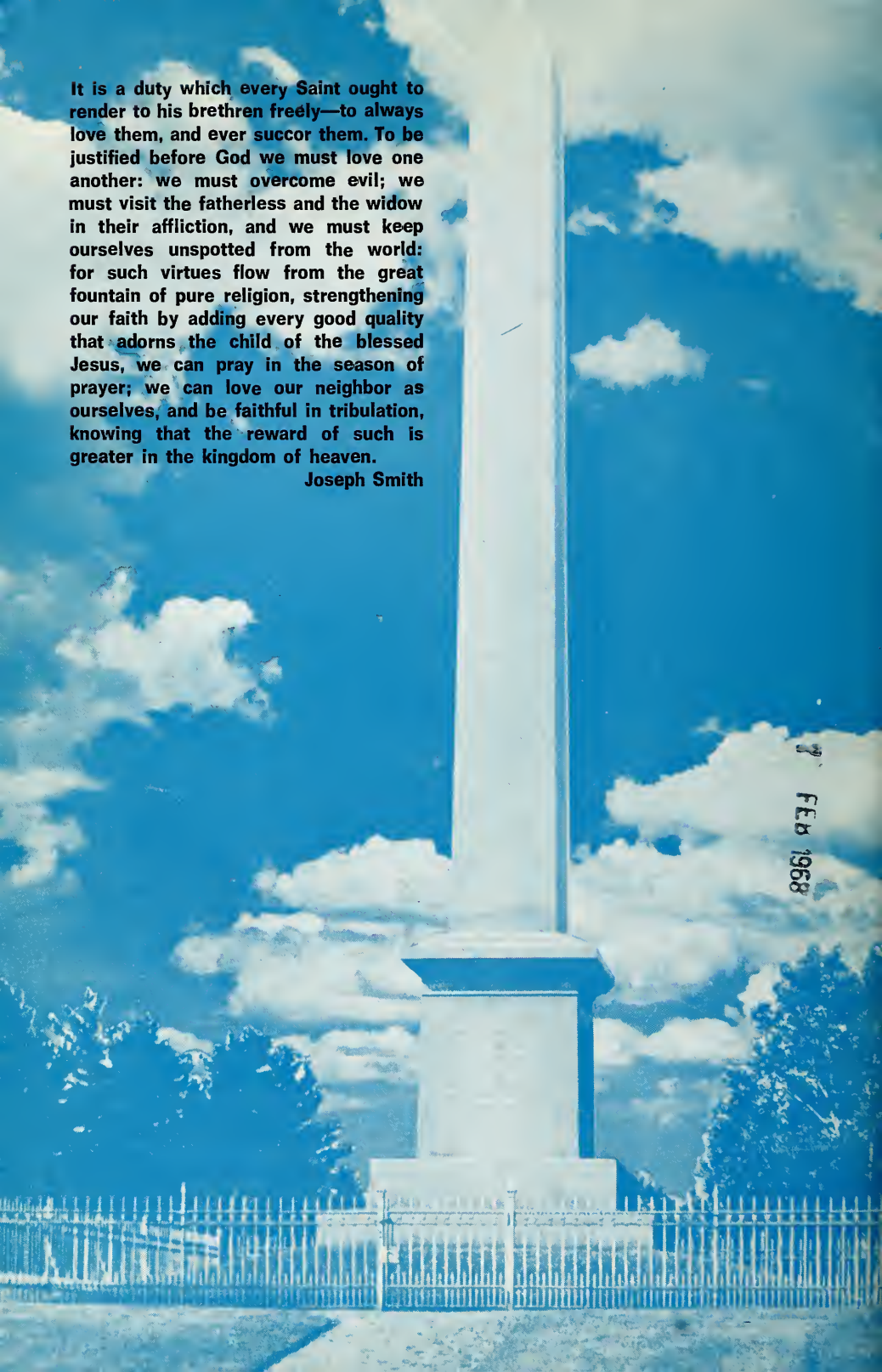
Alma in his fifth chapter in the Book of Mormon presents a series of questions which relate to what he calls "a mighty change" in the heart. He is speaking of the effect of the prophet Abinadi's words upon his own father: the effect was that "a mighty change was wrought in his heart." There are many aspects of this change: verse 27: are we sufficiently humble to meet the Lord? Verse 28: are we stripped of pride? Verse 29: of envy? The Lord encourages in verse 33: Repent, and I will receive. In the book of Revelation (3:20) the Lord again exhorts all men:

"I stand at the door and knock; if any man hear my voice , I will come unto him, and will sup with him and he with me."

The Lord stands and knocks, ever anxious that His voice and teachings will be heard: the record does not read: "I stood and knocked": so long as there is yet one Lost Sheep to be found, the Shepherd will have great joy. Just as He taught the woman of Samaria at the side of the well about 'living water', so He offers this to all:

"The water that I shall give shall be in him a well of water springing up into everlasting life."

★ ★ ★



It is a duty which every Saint ought to render to his brethren freely—to always love them, and ever succor them. To be justified before God we must love one another: we must overcome evil; we must visit the fatherless and the widow in their affliction, and we must keep ourselves unspotted from the world: for such virtues flow from the great fountain of pure religion, strengthening our faith by adding every good quality that adorns the child of the blessed Jesus, we can pray in the season of prayer; we can love our neighbor as ourselves, and be faithful in tribulation, knowing that the reward of such is greater in the kingdom of heaven.

Joseph Smith

7 FEB 1968